

'Mayor of London'

Campaign Diary

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Saturday 18th April 1998

...Then, I downloaded the London Government summary. I must do a manifesto based on the Mayor's powers & distribute it.

Sunday 19th April 1998

I spent the morning setting up my Mayor of London bid web site.... I spammed all my friends with this:-

PRESS RELEASE Ken Baldry is running to be the Labour Candidate for Mayor of London.
For more details, see the draft campaign Web Site at:-

<http://www.art-science.com/London/>

If you like what you read there, please back me up & give me a hand. This campaign will be largely run on the Internet. Thank you. Best wishes....Ken

Monday 20th April 1998

*From: Derek Hines <DHINES@ealing.gov.uk> Subject: kEN,Mayor of London -Reply
Ken, Thanks but I don't have access to web sites at work.*

If you want to get the support of Islington South CLP for a nomination I suggest that it would help if you (and Avis if possible) could be very active in the Council election campaign.

I know nothing is happening in St Peter's as it is one we cannot win (this time). However, we are seriously worried that the LibDems might win St Mary's so anything you can do to help would be appreciated. Chris Page is the Ward Organiser, his home tel is 0171 704 6819 and work 0171 356 1623. He is also on e mail as are two of the candidates, Paul Convery and Paul Jackson. The third candidate is Jessica Bawden. As you probably know. Cheers. Derek

Avis' reply:- Dear Derek You asked whether I would help with the local election campaign because Ken is pursuing standing for London mayor on the Internet. Firstly I wonder what has happened to all those young people, many less than half my age, who joined the party for the General Election. It doesn't bode well for us if they've disappeared. I had decided that, after decades of flogging the streets for Labour I was giving myself a break. When you are younger you cannot imagine the loss of energy later and the effect of a virus I've had has gone on and on. I am for once devoting my remaining energy to my career as an artist.

I told Paul Jackson that what I was doing for him, Chris and the party was keeping my mouth shut and desisting from using my considerable powers of persuasion and influence in any direction until after the election. Unlike some moaners I am delighted with what Labour is doing nationally (my GLC print from 1986 is a bit of an embarrassment now as it features Ken Livingstone so prominently, but that was then and this is now).

A slight disappointment is that the Transport White Paper won't come out until after the locals. If you have some material on that I'll be delighted to receive it and if I approve I MAY change my mind. No party standing is promising to provide us with a pedestrianised town centre at the Angel before my dotage and as a concession to certain roads (whose residents SHOULD be working for Labour in St Mary's as the whole scheme was mucked up specially for them and I notice more Lib Dem posters in Theberton Street than Labour) I am pinning my hopes on the wider picture for tackling the problem of CARS and not just the vague evasion of 'improving public transport'.

rather makes a nonsense of the artificial antagonisms in the local scene. For me it is the individuals that matter and I would support the St Mary's Councillors over ours in St Peter's any day even though they're wrong over Parkfield. When we lived in Hounslow there was a very effective Labour council which had rather more opposition than there is here which kept it on its toes.

As I told you recently, I was dragged kicking and screaming to continue my Anderson's work by objecting to the plan for a replacement to 7-9 Islington. I arranged and attended several meetings and wrote several letters. After two recalls the committee has passed the scheme with hardly any alteration so time I didn't want to give has been wasted. Best regards, Avis

Added by Ken:- I will be doing something to help Paul Jackson in his campaign but it's not that easy. As a partly American company with several current installations on Mainland Europe in difficult places (Prague & Warsaw), we sometimes have to work from 8am until 10pm or later (5 in Boston). There is no 9 to 5 for people who run their own business. If I get to be Mayor, I will dump the software business onto a friend for the duration. (I'm getting cross-party messages of support for Mayor. Look at my web site when you get a chance).

From: Geof Baldry <geofbal@n-skiathos.gr> Subject: Mayoral ambitions.

Dear Ken, Good luck, mate! Just a couple of things. On your transport pages, under the list of things that Ken will do, the first "will" is spelt "wil".

If you want to send email to a lot of people, don't put all the addresses in the Cc: (copy to) part of the header, but in the Bcc (Blind carbon copy) part. This way none of the recipients get all the other recipients Email addresses (some may not like their address being spread to all & sundry).

These are just nagging little details but it is surprising on what people will pick up on to give them an excuse to react negatively to any "new" ideas.

Links to "Schemes such as those proposed by Sir Richard Rogers & Sir Norman Foster" would be a good idea. Probably a lot of people aren't even aware of such schemes & may want to check them out. Use the web as a teaching tool by letting people find things out for themselves through your good offices. Once again, good luck, Geof.

Reply:- Dear Geof, Thanks for the support! The spelling mistake will be corrected pronto - someone else spotted it. I don't know if there are web sites for the architects schemes but will have a search. Thanks for the tip about Bcc. The first load of press releases only went out to my gang & a separate list went to the papers, who ignored it. Typically, the 'Daily Mail' did not even know their e-mail address. This is not a serious campaign, (*comment: it became one by the end of the week*) as the whole thing will be stitched up but I want to push other candidates into saying what they will do. I also want the assembly to work in quite a different way from ordinary Councils or Reginal Governments. Love from Ken.

Reply to Michael Hannah Discover Islington:- Hello Michael Thanks for your e-mail. I will give him a ring. I don't think there is a link from the islingtoni site but you get a mention.

I am running for Labour candidate for Mayor of London - details on our web site at www.art-science.com/London/ if you are interested. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

Peter Maxwell-Lyte (*financial advisor*) also rang with his support for me as Mayor.

Tuesday 21st April 1998

Ann Anderson is a friend living near Houston, Texas:-

I have put a link to your web site from my 'Campaign for Mayor of London site', which I have promised to warm up your plans for the City & get them done. My campaign site is:-
www.art-science.com/London/
I hope you don't mind. Best regards, Ken Baldry

Saturday 25th April 1998 Republic AGM, Holiday trip to New Forest

First, some bureaucracy:-

Dear Harley (Sherlock), As promised, here are the minutes of the Outside Rights meeting Avis attended on Liverpool Road & the Transport web page from my Mayor of London web site (www.art-science.com/London/). *etc*

To the Republic AGM at The old Regents Street Poly building in a rather 'magnificent' hall....In the Q&A session after that, I said Stephen should have mentioned the new London Assembly scheme, which will have an elected local Head of State & put my oar in about me wanting to be a candidate.

Tuesday 28th April 1998

I was rung up by successively, the High & I & the Islington Gazette. The H&I had looked at my Web Site for Mayor & will come to do a photo tomorrow at 10. The IG has NO INTERNET ACCESS, so I printed off the site for them. They are a week behind the H&I. I faxed them this:-

Chris Goodall Islington Gazette 161 Tottenham Lane London N8 9BU

Dear Chris,

Mayor of London campaign

Thank you for ringing this evening. What follows this are the printed out web pages from my campaign web site, which is (for when you get access):

www.art-science.com/London/

The site is developing all the time as I get the opportunity to add more policy. (I do have a business to run. However, if I am elected Mayor, I will put into operation the contingency plan already laid should I have a fatal accident, so that my wife will not suffer).

The underlined parts of the web data are hyperlinks which switch viewers to the policy paper on that subject or to other people's relevant web sites. So does clicking on the small photos of me, here shown on some pages.

There will be more pages on such subjects as London: the Olympic Hopeful, London: a great European City, London and Jobs (hopefully) & so on.

Wednesday 29th April 1998

The High & I put me under house arrest all morning & the photographer did not turn up until after 12, slipping from the promised 10.

Thursday 30th April 1998

From: Andrew Grant-Adamson <A.D.Adamson@city.ac.uk> **Subject: web site**

Good to hear of you again via Lesley. Just taken a quick look at art-science. Did not know you were interested in being Mayor. Will come back when I have a little more time. But did you design the pages on a big screen? I had to do a lot of horizontal scrolling. Good luck Andrew (Andrew Grant-Adamson)

I replied: Hello Andrew... Thanks for the message. I did use a big screen but I checked it for 640 x 480, so you have to scroll down but not across (in theory). How wide is your screen? If you have an original Apple Mac, then it would not fit but I did this on a Mac G3.

I recall you were very interested in the Charter local government proposals. I wasn't interested in becoming Mayor until it was invented. Then I thought - I'm used to running things. Why not run London? I had a great write-up in the High & I today. Best regards & to Lesley. Ken

The Rt. Hon. Tony Blair Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London SW1A 2AJ

Dear Tony, **Mayor of London campaign**

Please excuse the familiarity. We were introduced when you were Shadow Home Secretary at a Charter 88 do, on who's Council I serve. You probably don't get the High & I these days, so I enclose the cover of today's, which has 'done me proud'. My campaign web site is:

www.art-science.com/London/

The site is developing all the time as I get the opportunity to add more policy but I do have a business to run. However, if I am selected and elected Mayor, I will put into operation the contingency plan already laid should I have a fatal accident and hand the business on.

There will be more pages on such subjects as London: the Olympic Hopeful, London: a great European City, London and Jobs (hopefully) & so on.

I am a constituent of Chris Smith, who knows who I am. Congratulations on a great first year in office. I can't count the number of Tories who have said they wish they had voted for you & will vote for me.

I used the BBC Talkback web site to advertise my Mayor campaign.

Monday 4th May 1998

....Heather Rabatts put her bid for Mayor of London in the G2. This, to the Guardian Editor:-

Dear Editor, As with several other aspirants for Mayor, Heather Rabatts should finish the demanding job she has now, first. My own candidature has been ignored by you, presumably because I am not well known but that is why I am not a 'boring' white male. While the local papers are showing interest, I rely on you to spread the word, as well as the Internet: www.art-science.com/London/, where I am offering credible policies. Yours sincerely....Ken Baldry, Council member of Charter 88

& similarly to the Observer:-

Dear Will, The Mayor of London will not be a 'political eunuch', as you suggest. Properly used, apparent weakness can be turned into strength, which is why I am running. See my web site: www.art-science.com/London/. There I am offering credible policies in the few areas available to the Mayor. People will want to know why I am not sorting out the housing & educational blight areas in London

Wednesday 6th May 1998
....Avis wore herself out in the Gym this morning & one of the ladies told her my Mayor bid had been in the Daily Mail. Yuk!...

Thursday 7th May 1998 Local Election & London Government Referendum Day

Avis & I went telling in the morning, she at William Tyndale & me at Laycock with Diana Maddox, the Liberal baroness who was the only MP at the last election to be defeated by a Tory, the nauseating Christopher Chope, ex-of Wandsworth Council...I gave her my web page address for London....I had e-mail from Charter 88 & sent this:-

Subject:Back Link

Dear whoever,, I have a link from my Mayor of London campaign website to the Charter one. How about a link from yours (ours) to mine? It is:-

www.art-science.com/London/ Best regards, Ken Baldry Charter 88 Council Member

We went to Dolce for their next attempt to interest the press, this time successfully, as they targeted magazines etc. with an interest in food. Some of them were also interested in the art & vis sold one print, got another likely sale & gave away two press packs, into which I also slipped my Mayor leaflets, of which I also handed out several...Marco (who was not there) had told Chris I was going to do my Mayor surgeries in the café on Saturday mornings. I won't include the Web pages for mayor here until I have finished adding to them....Then, there was a party at Paula Kahn's posh flat in Barnsbury Square. Not that many people were there when we left at 2310 but at least, I put out a load of these leaflets, with an advert for my Dolce surgeries on the back & everybody there knew what it was about & could tell other people who presumably will come after the count. Avis did not tell me until we were on the way home that Alan Barnard, who was in the St. Mary's Committee Room, was impressed by my Gazette item & he has real influence at Millbank Tower. You never know - I might even get it.

Friday 8th May 1998

....At the Town Hall, the election situation was Labour 24, Libs 24 with a recount in Sussex Ward. Alarming. I dropped a leaflet off to Philip Davies but Hen said she would vote for me as soon as I appeared, having read it in the paper. People are obviously recognising me in the street, too....I set up some e-mail:-

To:Andrew Puddephatt **Subject:Mayor of London**

Dear Andrew, I'm putting my time where my mouth has been & am running for Labour Candidate for Mayor. Details on the web:-

www.art-science.com/London/ Thought you might be interested. Best regards, Ken Baldry

Saturday 9th May 1998

...Then, to Dolce for my first Mayor's surgery from 11 to 12. No one came until Ursula (*van der Nuell*) appeared with her lumpen but nice daughter Jeska at 1145, who has none of her mother's sexiness. Avis came shortly after for an ice-cream, prolonging the session....I sent this:-

To:New Statesman Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Revisiting Ken Livingstone is beside the point. Nostalgia for a mid-eighties that did not actually happen as most people remember is no way to choose a mayoral candidate. I am conducting a

Sunday 10th May 1998

...I walked down to Covent Garden, where we met Jason's family to see the Puppet Festival based on Inigo Jones' church & mostly in the garden. We watched a Punch & Judy show - a long time since I did that & I bought a 'Vote for Puppets' badge for the Mayor election.....then came home, where I did a spam e-mail for the local party:-

Fraternal greetings to everybody. This is Ken Baldry's campaign to be the Labour Candidate for Mayor of London. Some of the details of what & why & some policy are on my web site at:-

www.art-science.com/London/

but, as this is only going to members of the Islington South & Finsbury CLP, it is worth adding a point: We (nearly) all want Ken Livingstone but we have to face the fact that we are not going to get him in any circumstances. What we must avoid, if this office is going to have any credibility whatsoever, is having a Blair Puppet foisted upon us. From what is happening in Scotland, it is obvious that the canny Scots have decided that a Labour Government in London & an SNP government in Edinburgh will allow them to play them off & get the best result for Scotland. What we don't want is the Londoners deciding that a Mayor from a party in opposition to the government will give them the same power. So, we must have a Labour Mayor (because we are Labour) but not an obvious Blair glove puppet. I say something similar but not so bluntly, on the web site.

The procedures for selecting a mayoral candidate are not yet apparent but the reasons why the party should nominate me are that I am not notably loony left or rabid right, have a long record with Charter 88 of campaigning for regional government, am nobody's puppet, can be relied upon to screw every penny I can out of Brussels for London and have a track record as a successful businessman (important these days, whatever you may think about it). Unfortunately, I will be exporting for Britain at the time of the next GC or I could make my case there. Best regards, Ken Baldry

Monday 11th May 1998

...Then, I rang Chris Goodall at the 'Islington Gazette' to thank him for the excellent & effective coverage. ...I had this reaction:-

*From: JAKoszuta <JAKoszuta@aol.com> Subject: Re: Mayor of London
Hi Ken, Best of luck. I'll take a look at your site tonight. Jan*

I had two spams & two of the Labour mail addresses are duds:-

*451 cmunro@freshfields.com... reply: read error from mailhost.freshfields.com.
550 bawdenj@walken.ace.org.uk... Host unknown (Name server: walken.ace.org.uk: host not found)*

Tuesday 12th May 1998

I amended the London web site to propose the milking of commuters' local authorities. I managed to get a contact for Labour addresses & e-mailed this:-

To:David Gardner labour-party@geo2.poptel.org.uk

I had extracted the diary material this morning. I went to the Agenda 21 Transport Sub-Committee in the evening with my Transport proposals & Mayor leaflets. I bumped into Margaret Axon on the way & gathered in her vote with my car ban. The meetings was a typical green affair. Doug had drafted a hopelessly complicated leaflet which I hacked to pieces, with the simple example of mine. They are trying to get continuous bus lanes in Holloway Road, although Adrian, the taxi driver is not keen. I made them clarify their objectives.

Wednesday 13th May 1998

An e-mail first:-

To:Guardian Editor **Subject: Transport**

Dear Editor, I do not have great hopes for the Transport White Paper because John Prescott has said he has 'no power' to regulate the trains. He is supposed to me Deputy Prime Minister, so surely,he can persuade the House to give him the necessary powers. My pitch to be the Labour Candidate for Mayor of London includes draconian measures to improve transport in London, see my web pages at: www.art-science.com/London. Where the powers do not already exist in the Mayor White Paper, I will demand them from Parliament. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published*)

I also updated & corrected the Transport page.....I later had this unhelpful e-mail & replied to it:-

From: Dave Holland <dave@newens.demon.co.uk> Subject: Mayor of London campaign

Dear Ken Baldry, Thank-you for your letter of May 11th announcing your candidacy for the Labour nomination for Mayor of London. You say: "Most members seem to want Ken Livingstone but we have to face the fact that we are not going to get him in any circumstances."

Why should I accept this ? If the Labour leadership show their contempt for the membership and elementary democratic principles to the extent that Ken is not allowed to seek selection, why should I support anyone else, or vote Labour in the eventual mayoral election ? I shall do neither. Dave Holland

I replied:-

Dear Dave, Thank you for your response. As you are not an ISFCLP member, I would be interested to hear where you are from. If you are a constituency secretary, the letter was intended to be put before your GMC & I would be grateful if you did so.

As to the issue of Ken Livingstone, while I said that 'most members seem to want' him, this appears to be nostalgia for a 1980s that did not quite happen as they remember. At the time, his undoubtedly successful image as someone standing up to the Thatcher Dictatorship masked the administrative shambles at the GLC & also the fact that when we have an enemy government, it is up to the National leadership to sort them out while the local leaders negotiate the best deal possible for their constituents. I believe that Socialism is what gets positive outcomes for real people, rather than theoretical concepts applied to a mythical people & that it what I would aim to achieve as Mayor.

If you are Labour but would not vote Labour, whoever the candidate, I think that rather sad. I have been a member of the party since helping at the 1964 General Election, have seen four Labour Governments come & three go & am convinced that, whatever one may think of particular Labour leaders or policies, they are better than anything else on offer. Those comrades who think, for example, that Blair is too right wing by half should remember that Thatcher & Major were infinitely more so & thoroughly corrupt into the bargain. Yours fraternally, Ken Baldry

Dear Mr Baldry, I have recently been given some details of your campaign and have put the details on my web site ISLINGTON NEWSLETTER, which is published weekly.

The URL is: <http://www.longley.force9.co.uk>

*You will find over 250 pages of information available on it for interested parties, consisting of many of the matters pertaining to Islington Council, including the Consolidated Accounts and the Auditor Commission's Management Letter for the year 1996/97. There I have also placed the various documents about FACT in: Special Issue Number 8 NORTH LONDON **Fight** Against Council Tenancy Sell-offs. If I can be of help in any way please do not hesitate to contact me Yours sincerely,*

To:INTERNET:benson@longley.force9.co.uk **Subject: Your web site**

Hi John, Thanks for the letter. My name is Ken, not Dave. I would be grateful for a link from your web site, which is rather a good looking one. Mine is a bit old-fashioned because it has been done in great haste, firstly to publicise exhibitions my partner, Avis Saltsman, was showing in & because I wanted to get the Mayor campaign up sharpish. So, it's for content, not style! At least, I have some of my music on as MIDI files & a gallery of Avis' work. Our URL is:-

www.art-science.com with /Avis for her stuff & /London for my Mayor campaign. Naturally, I would expect you to link to the other candidates sites "when" they set them up! Best Regards, Ken Baldry

From: Ken Baldry, 17 Gerrard Road, Islington, London N1 8AY Tel:+44(0)171 359 6294.
Replies to ken@art-science.com, please, as we might change ISP any day now.

Friday 15th May 1998

It is quite obvious that I am going to have to bombard the press over my Mayor bid. There were letters in the Guardian suggesting the Mayor's job was all a joke:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Has some sort of D-notice gone out on candidates for Mayor of London, such that only candidates with either no credibility or no policy are to be mentioned in the Press? While my local coverage in Islington has been excellent, you have ignored me and as a result, your letters page correspondents today (15-5-98) assume there are no credible candidates. Have a look at my web pages: www.art-science.com/London/ for someone serious about London's problems.

To: Newsroom.South.East@bbc.co.uk **Subject: Pollution in London**

Dear Newsroom, It is no good Michael Meacher begging motorists not to use their cars when pollution is high. Every motorist perceives other people's cars as causing the problem, not their own. In my campaign for Mayor of London (see my web site www.art-science.com/London/), I propose actual curbs on car use. Without legislation blocking certain car movements backed up by enforcement, the pollution problem of London will never be solved. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

I sent these at about 8....Then, to BTS to ask what was going on....Liza is extremely impressed by my standing for Mayor. I don't think she has met many people who actually *do* something. Back at home, I prepared more e-mails:-

To: Big Issue Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Ken Livingstone is not the only candidate for Labour Mayor of London but it is difficult to publicise one's campaign if one is not a big name. I want the job & have credible policies, which I have

...I had, getting some good suggestions from a rather fabulous woman, Helen Lord which I later added to the web site. Chantal said she would come to my surgery on 23rd.

Saturday 16th May 1998

...No one came to my surgery in Dolce this week but I did find my letter in the 'New Statesman'. There is one thud-thud I should have removed but otherwise, I think it might do some good.

Saturday 23rd May 1998

...I did my Mayor's Surgery. Valentine Tucker was there & her daughter. I got bolder this time & handed out my leaflets. Avis joined me later & I bought a Big Issue but my letter was not in it.

Sunday 24th May 1998

...I sent this e-mail to the New Statesman, as they had a Transport Supplement this week:-

To: jkennedy@newstatesman.co.uk **Subject: Transport Policy**

Dear Editor, Your supplement was excellent but we have still to see the White Paper. On my 'Mayor of London Campaign' web site (www.art-science.com/London/), there is a detailed transport policy for London, based on a clearly defined zoning system for car use, rather like the London Transport zones. This is simple to understand, obviates all the complications of road and parking pricing and is expensive for car owners. Bus lanes work quite well because they are simple & clear. So is my zoning scheme. An effective transport policy is the key to all other policies any mayor would want to put in place. Other candidates should be judged first by their transport policies. Yours fraternally, Ken Baldry

Wednesday 27th May 1998

....I walked down to the Millbank Tower, to be met by a lad who refused to give me the addresses of the CLPs on the grounds that the campaign has not started yet & it would not be fair to give the addresses to only one candidate, when there were 'hundreds' interested. I protested that the addresses should be in the Public Domain & that the high profile candidates were already campaigning, so it was not a level playing field. He did say that he would pass my letter (included here) on to the GLLP, so they could give me the info. when the time was right. He had some interesting slips of the tongue, saying that 'the candidates had not been selected' (what does that mean?) & that 'the policy had not been decided' (by whom? NEC?), so my suspicion of a total stitch up is confirmed. Glenda Jackson, who is weak, seems to be the NEC's front runner because she will not challenge the government.. ...

Thursday 28th May 1998

....I sent this, as the editorial complained about attempts to control the awkward squad:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Millbank Tower**

Dear Editor, The control freakery at Millbank Tower extends further than the Labour MPs. Yesterday, I requested the addresses of the Greater London Constituency Labour Parties, as I have an incomplete list to circulate with my bid to be the candidate for Mayor of London (see web site, www.art-science.com/London/). I was refused on the grounds that the campaign has not started yet, they have not formulated the rules nor (significantly) the policy & that it would be unfair to release the information to just one candidate. I protested that the unselectable Ken Livingstone was already running on television & so was the unselectable Glenda Jackson, so the famous playing field is hardly level. I will now have to trawl

needed John - a sort of super-civilised sort of thing...I took 20 of my Mayor of London leaflets & handed them out, after I had nerved myself to do so.

Saturday 20th June 1998

From: ecliptica.wv@virgin.net Subject: Ken for Mayor!!!
Hi there Mny thanx for the postcard from Copenhagen .. and for the URL ... I had no idea!!
If I lived in London you could be certain of my vote!! ... All the very best with that ...
Hope to see you both on Saturday 1st August at Demian's wedding bash ...
All love from Charlie, Jane and Vicky ... (Charlie Brewster, one of Ken's gang - mathematical genius)

Wednesday 24th June 1998

I got this letter from Terry Ashton, the Labour Party Regional Director:-

Dear Mr Baldry Mayor of London
Thank you for your note of the 27th May 1998.
I can assure you that the London Labour Party will be setting up a system for building a panel of candidates for the post of Mayor and for the London Assembly before long.
As a member of the Labour Party you will be eligible to apply for local nomination by ward branch or affiliated group and if successful to go forward to nomination stage.
Meanwhile, I cannot give you a list of CLPs.
Good luck. Yours sincerely

Huh!Then, I scanned in the rest of the Copenhagen photos & added some to my Mayor of London Environment Web Page.

Thursday 2nd July 1998

I got a chilly little note from the Richard Rogers Partnership in reply to my e-mail requesting a back-link from their web site. I am surprised they took it at all seriously:-

MAYOR OF LONDON / WEB SITE Dear Ken Baldry, Further to your e-mail. I regret to inform you that the practice is not able to agree to your request. Yours sincerely, Fiona Charleswoth on behalf of..

Friday 3rd July 1998

...In the evening, there was one of the rare Charter 88 seminars, partly to celebrate the 10th anniversary to think about where we go from here.Andrew Puddephatt told me at the end that I was wrong to hand out my Mayor leaflets & not to do it tomorrow, as it implied Charter endorsement for my campaign. I said that was ok, as I had already handed them out. Why did he not stop me at the beginning?

Sunday 19th July 1998 The Frederick's Fund-raising Dinner

...The dinner is £100 a head, because of the cost of the Euro-Elections next year and, in the event, was not an enjoyable experience, by and large. I went in my dinner suit (the only guy to do so) & Avis in a wonderful jacket she got from Annie's old clothes shop. We were clearly the best-dressed couple. I teased Jennette (Arnold, later to be my Deputy Mayor running mate), who also looked a million dollars (running costs) about being the 2nd most attractive & 2nd best-dressed woman, which she appreciated, as she approved of me putting Avis Number One. But we got there at 7 & put my Mayor leaflets on most of the seats (we ran out). I remember the dinner was held at Demian's wedding bash, which was held at the same time as the dinner.

completed, after seven years acquaintance. I also promised one to Elizabeth Siman, because she never got the tape I sent at John Smith's death. I told her what the two City dealers had said to me when the news came on the Reuter wire. I was sitting next to Valda, the only artist who's work compared with Avis' (& who typically was humiliated when Simon Fanshawe opened the bidding at £1000 & only got the one bid). We at least were on the second table but so were Paul & Kim & he is Chair of the party. This would be Kate's doing. Avis told Chris about the lecture notes & I later, criticised Dorian's intervention, which he backed up as tactfully as he could but agreed that Millbank Tower were out of order in refusing me the names & addresses of party secretaries, as they had provided them to the Euro-candidates. One, who was present, Michael Cashman, was disgusted & promised to send me his list. (He was the gay in Eastenders & a very nice chap. Kate 'accidentally' left him off the list of nominees distributed to this party). I bearded Gordon Brown to complain, as an exporter, about the High Pound & the decision not to join the Euro on Day One. He said I knew their position but I said the more businessmen complain to him, the better. His speech, while funny appropriately, was quite bland. He thinks Welfare to Work will work. Fat chance. Brief chats to the Charter 88 gang, Carole Tongue MEP and (now Lord) David Currie, who is still on the EC but can't Chair it any longer because his Division Bell keeps ringing. (There were a lot of Lords, waiting to be abolished. Apart from Elizabeth, Helena & David, there were Megnad & Melvyn Bragg & probably some I don't know about). Lou Segal's fancy woman is Julia Burns, so we know her name at last! As we left, we regrouped instead with Jennette & Paula Kahn, who like the Jacksons & some other, were uncomfortable with the whole evening. They were plotting a 'Not the Frederick's Dinner' for next year, which of course, just provides another fund-raiser as well as makes a point. Jennette agrees with me that the Council staff are not given a hard enough time by management. I asked why Paul is hostile to her & she said he was an unpopular councillor because he was not trustworthy & he has difficulty in dealing with women. She said we were lucky that the Jacksons liked us, as Paul does not appear to like many people at all. An interesting point of view. We were home just before midnight.

Wednesday 26th August 1998

E-mail out:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Anti-terrorism powers**

Dear Editor, The real reason Tony Blair wants draconian new powers against 'terrorists' is to crack down on Old Labour & loose cannon candidates for Mayor of London, like me. Unfortunately for him, my web site (<http://www.art-science.com/london/>) is in Canada and out of his reach! Yours sincerely (sort of), Ken Baldry

Wednesday 16th September 1998

GC in the evening. There was an inept speaker who had 'advised' Gavin Strang & spoke wetly about transport. I got in a Mayor advert. which Sue Cartwright (*Left Tendency on the GMC*) tried to undermine. After, I told her to look at my web site for the full story.

Sunday 27th September 1998

E-mail first thing:-

To: editor@observer.co.uk **Subject: London traffic**

Dear Will, Jeffrey Archer's traffic proposals are designed to appeal to his Outer London constituency of selfish drivers, who will vote Tory anyway and, apart from the express buses looted from my own Mayor of London website (www.art-science.com/London/) betray a complete misunderstanding of the depth of the problems and the determination of Inner London residents to have a Mayor who will

THE ISLINGTON FABIAN SOCIETY

President - Peter Carter

Vice President - Marjorie Ogilvy-Webb

Chair - Derek Sawyer

Vice Chair - Patsy Bradbury

Treasurer - Richard Greening

Secretary - Pat Haynes

185 Midway Road

London, N1 4PU

Tel: 0171 249 3679

0171 477 3078

Meetings:

August 1998

Wed. Sept 24th 8 p.m. Iain Coleman M.P. "HammerSmith-Mayor"

Wed. October 28th 8 p.m. Steve Bundred P.L. Camden
at Islington Town Hall Upper St. N.1.

Annual Dinner Friday November 20th 7.30 p.m. at LVSRC
Nick Raynsford M.P. 356 Holloway Road N.7. £12.50

The Annual Garden Party

Held by gracious permission of the Leader of the Council and his lady whose Grandmother Moses type portrait was prominently displayed at their home and patio in Finsbury Park.

Philip entertained his contemporaries Stan and Archie whilst the slightly older generations, etc. drank and gossiped.

After Patsy had rigged up an evening for the first showers, the weather improved and it turned out to be a most pleasant occasion and many members kindly donated contributions amongst them, Patsy and Richard, Jan and Laurie, Ken Baldry (still trying to become Mayor of London via the internet), Shonagh, Peter and Dilys, Derek Hines and others, so gratitude to them and Derek, Sheila and Philip

Pat Haynes

Ken Baldry for Mayor of London

17 Gerrard Road
Islington
London N1 5AY

Phone: 0171 350 6294
Facsimile: 0171 226 4718
E-mail: ken@art-science.com

"Mayor of London"

Web Site at

Ken Durrant, candidate for the Labour Mayoral nomination & also Charter 88 Council member
PS I could do a proper article like Archer's. Why should he, a no-hoper, have this free publicity?

Friday 16th October 1998

....Avis drew my attention to a small item in the Guardian:-

SOONER than expected, the bell begins to toll for Ken Livingstone's mayoral ambitions. On Monday, the newly renamed Regional Board of the Greater London Labour Party will meet to approve a plan to make all would-be candidates subject to "suitability scrutiny": in English, this means a loyalist selection committee vetting the shortlist (and vetoing anyone called Ken) before it goes to London members for voting. This plan will be rubber-stamped by the NEC next month. As for the unanimous decision taken in June by the London Labour conference that any candidate nominated by 10 constituencies would automatically be shortlisted, this will, of course, be overturned. Another deafening endorsement, then, for internal party democracy.

I sent this e-mail as a result:-

To: Greater London Labour Party lp-gtr-london@geo2.poptel.org.uk **Subject: Mayor of London**
Dear Comrade, I understand from an item in the Guardian (Friday 16th October) that you will be selecting a Labour Mayoral Candidate short list next Monday. I have been running for this nomination since April, using the Internet to contact party members (<http://www.art-science.com/London/>) since no procedure had been laid down for seeking the nomination, although among others, Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary & my MP is aware of my campaign.
I am sure the Guardian report is faulty, as so many of their news items are. If it is not, there will be consternation among GLLP members, not least, me. I have put much effort into this campaign, considering that I am also the Managing Director of a 100% exporting company. Fraternal greetings,

Friday 30th October 1998

*From: David McIntyre, dm117@york.ac.uk **Subject: The campaign***
Ken, I like the idea of a non-looney leftie or Blairite being Mayor. Unfortunately my friend, I think a lot of people think that man is Simon Hughes.
Anyway, good luck with the campaign and congratulations on a great website. David McIntyre.

Wednesday 4th November 1998

...& called at Discover Islington on the way back to get hotel details. Helen served me...The London Tourist Board is apparently in hock to commercial interests & I said that, as Mayor of London, I would appoint a Minister of the Arts responsible for co-ordinating tourism as well as the arts. She said she would look at my web site, so I revised it a bit, also adding Year 2000 stuff to the Mayor site.

Thursday 5th November 1998

On my Mayor of London web pages, I say that clearing up the Year 2000 mess is the first priority for the new mayor, hopefully me.

Friday 13th November 1998

... The procedure for becoming the Labour Mayor of London has been cooked to try to exclude Ken Livingstone & one has to apply for the Job:-

Sunday 15th November 1998
I sent a letter (e-mail) to the Guardian:-

Dear Editor, The procedure has been published & I have made my application to be Labour's candidate for Mayor of London. But I hope they will not exclude Ken Livingstone. He needs to be confronted & defeated. People have forgotten that his main achievement at the GLC was its abolition, which has led to a decade of drift in the capital. People need a Mayor of vision who will get a grip, the way Mayor Giuliani has in New York. That is me. Livingstone is a burnt-out case who has achieved nothing since he has become an MP. (*not published*).

Wednesday 18th November 1998

The GMC was quite snappy & good humoured. There were several resolutions: one on the Mayor of London was obviously designed to corner me, so I seconded it with a powerful attack on Ken Livingstone, saying I wanted him on the short list so I could destroy him for his failures.

Friday 20th November 1998

In the evening, we went to the Fabians Dinner in Jones Bros (*Voluntary Services Resources Centre*). This was fun as usual. ...The speaker was Nick Rainsford, Minister for London allegedly. We suggested that there would be more money for Islington to ward off some of the terrible cuts, perhaps & spoke about the mayor. He said there were usually several candidates for Mayor whenever he spoke. I said I was a serious one, spoke about organising the Assembly & relations with the Lord Mayor but I had trouble saying Mayor's Web Site, a tongue twister.

Tuesday 24th November 1998

Paul Foot said he would stand for Mayor if Ken Livingstone was not selected:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Now we have the fatuous intervention of Paul Foot. I am maddened by the sentimental attachment of so many to Ken Livingstone. Let us be clear that his major achievement was the destruction of the GLC and the imposition of at least 14 years of incompetent London governance by unrepresentative committees. So Thatcher committed the crime but if Livingstone had played her like a hooked fish instead of charging to inglorious defeat, we would have a GLC today. For sensible ideas for London, try www.art-science.com/London/. (*not published*).

Wednesday 25th November 1998 Charter 88 10th Birthday Party

...& walked to 4 Millbank for the Charter 88 10th Birthday Party, taking 61 minutes & surprised to see a lot of people already there. The building has this high atrium unexpectedly at the back. It took me a few minutes to see anyone I knew, who were Ray Sheath & the now pregnant Sarah Aitken but a lot of the people are ones who would not give the Charter the time of day 10 years ago & now want to be associated with this band of winners. Greeting Jo King & Stephen Howe, I found myself in conversation with Colin Fellowes & later thought that they were probably glad I took him off their hands. While being very supportive of my Mayor bid, he told me a lot about the Royal Family, which he claims is from the Churchill Archives, saying that Elizabeth had promised the Archbishop of Canterbury that she would stand down in favour of her half-brother by her father (George VI) out of, wait for it, Wallis Simpson & that the Duke of Windsor (who could not get it up) knew & expected parliament to 'secure the succession' for this man, who's name Fellowes

Friday 4th December 1998

The High & I published my letter, which I had sent two weeks ago. Bit cold, now & any damage has been done.... I walked down to the Government Bookshop, to find they had run out of the London Assembly Bill, which was published yesterday.

Saturday 12th December 1998

A Charter 88 conference to celebrate the tenth anniversary in the ICA. I walked down, getting there early & walking round St. James' Park. So did Avis (by bus) but I did not see her! It was largely disappointing but I did manage to advertise my Mayor campaign both by intervening in the first session, 'Europe and the break up of Britain' & by bringing my web page up on the terminal outside in the café area & directing people to it. The last session of writers on the state of the art & why there was no great novel of the Thatcher era (which they did not say) rather retrieved the day. They were Peter Porter, Linda Grant, Steve Martin & Marina Warner (who I warned to stop laughing at my Mayor bid or I would not ask her to the Mayor's party). Also present were Susan Frost, about to get married in January (23rd), Anthony Barnett, Andrew & Felicity Kaye & a few others who's names I don't recall. We, it seems, gatecrashed the lunch on the top floor, which I think was supposed to be for the speakers. I introduced Avis to Claire Rayner there after the compulsory snog. She was with Peter Tachell who also spoke. It ran from 1000 to 1730. Warm day. After 'tea' at home, I made some changes to the London web pages suggested by things I had heard today.

Tuesday 22nd December 1998

From: BBates7404@aol.com Subject: Form response

Get London Transport to set up it's (sic) own bus operating company, in competition with the big private companies. LT could then set the standard for service and working conditions for the employees. Change the system of tendering for bus operations in London back to GROSS COST, it is easier to subsidise gross cost contracts without putting extra profit into the private bus companies.

To: BBates7404@aol.com **Subject: London Transport**

Hello Barry, Thank you for your response. I think you're right but the Greater London Authority Bill (a very tedious read) seems to prevent me from doing so. It seems I would have the power to lay down the conditions etc, though. Although the bill is rather long on detail, this is probably one of the things that would be decided by negotiation with the Secretary of State (who has a tremendously nanny role with respect to the GLA & seems to think it is a Local Authority, not a Regional Government). I think we (Mayor & Assembly) are going to have to show what a brilliant job we can do with the limited powers available in order to get any more. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

Sunday 27th December 1998

Another rainy day. I did a 'Coming clean' page for my Mayor site as a result of the Mandelson affair.

Saturday 2nd January 1999

I registered with Red Hat for Linux support. I had to amend the Mayor leaflets, as I moved the surgeries to 'The Dôme' because 'Oregano' is not really a coffee bar any more.

Wednesday 13th January 1999

...I photographed our truck (clear sky & sunshine) & an unmarked white van for the Mayor web page. After lunch, ...I walked down to Kings Cross & to St. Pancras Old Church. I reckoned I could take a photo which would make it look as if it was in the country but it was surrounded by builders mesh & I tried a tricky shot through the railings, hanging on with one hand. I took a couple of others, including the Camley Street gasholders, which are listed but not after I am Mayor of London. Record them & remove them. There is too much heritage trash in this Town....We went to the Islington Festival inauguration party at a place in Cross Street at 1830. Not many of the 'usual suspects'. Only us, David Gladstone, Stanley Haines & Lester May (of Cable London) but a lot of young business somethings, including an educational charity who I palled up with & Vicky Richardson of 'Angel' magazine who asked about my Mayor bid & suggested I reopen South Kentish Town station. ...I put Vicki's suggestion up on the Mayor site.

Wednesday 27th January 1999

I went to the Fabians meeting, as Roger Warren Evans was talking about the Welsh Assembly. He stood against Rhodri Morgan & Alan Michael for Leader, so had to be given equal TV time etc. He has really thought about how it will work & had examined its powers, which include secondary legislation, both new & old, so they can go through Acts of Parliament & change their operation. He had ideas for what can be achieved for socialism in the Welsh assembly context as well, mainly increasing equality. The boundary of Wales has had to be strictly defined for the act & Wales is a geographical entity, not a cultural or ethnic one, which is just as well. He was quite keen on Alan Michael as Leader, because he thought there would be a lot of problems to resolve at first & it made sense for the Welsh Prime Minister to be the Secretary of State as well. He was not keen on the idea of a tight cabinet government & said that the Welsh Labour Party was not really prepared for a situation (unlikely as it may be) where they did not have a majority in the Assembly. He had liked Ron Davies but I said he was like Syme in 1984 & Blair got rid of him for being too keen, just as he had got rid of Mandelson for being too keen on Europe. This caused a few raised eyebrows! I made a lot of points about the differences from London, partly to show the Fabians I was on top of the London Bill. I walked back with Joe Harris, who commented that people do not like other people to take the initiative. I explained why.

Friday 29th January 1999

Ken Livingstone had a crawly article in the Guardian today, sucking up to Blair. I sent this:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Ken Livingstone**

Dear Editor, Ken Livingstone has clearly put loyalty to Tony Blair ahead of loyalty to the London electorate. But this is not the anti-Livingstone issue: that is the question of competence and guts. In the 80s, Londoners elected Andrew McIntosh to run London, not Livingstone to run it into the ground. He then confronted the government instead of manipulating it to do what London needed. Having inevitably, lost the confrontation, one would have expected him to follow through his loony Left agenda and barricade the GLC into County Hall. 10,000 Labour Party members would have joined him. There was that number of romantics in the Party then. To be lead out of County Hall handcuffed by the SAS would have demonstrated, two years before the formation of Charter 88, that we elect Prime Ministers to exercise the Divine Right of Kings for five years. But Livingstone bottled out.

Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Saturday 30th January 1999

The Guardian did not publish my letter but someone else's one-liner, effectively repeating my first sentence. I did my Mayor surgery in the 'Pitcher & Piano', which is quite attractive & more so than 'The Dôme' but no one came except Avis after the gym for tea & a posh Italian toast thing.

management, not history & that it what I will give it. See www.art-science.com/London for more details! Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Wednesday 17th February 1999

I wrote this:-

Francis Wheen 'The Guardian'

Dear Mr Wheen, **Mayor of London campaign**

You are obviously as concerned as the rest of us that we have a sensible candidate for Mayor of London & definitely some retreat who's principle call to fame rests on having run London in such a way that he was abolished we were to be deprived of London government for fourteen years. With a solid record in the Labour Party & as a technical businessman, I wonder why your editor always refuses to publish any letter which mentions my campaign, although I have had plenty of others in. My campaign web site is:

www.art-science.com/London/

and you could see from it that I am the best qualified candidate, especially from my record of managing the development of the (evil?) banking system which is used for foreign exchange dealing. The site is developing all the time as I get the opportunity to add more policy but I do have a business to run. However, if I am selected and elected Mayor, I will put into operation the contingency plan already laid should I have a fatal accident and hand the business on.

I can't count the number of Tories who have told me they wish they had voted for Tony Blair & will vote for me. Could you give me a break, please?

(He didn't).

The GC was not quorate,...I got some positive encouragement for my Mayor of London bid.

Saturday 20th February 1999

I did my surgery in 'The Pitcher & Piano', eating one of their politically incorrect buffet breakfasts as I was only 11st 8lb this morning, the result of vegetarian meals this week at dinner. However, the manager objected, which she did not last time, so P&P get black-listed.

To: O'Rourke, Kate **Subject: Assembly**

Hi Kate, Did not know you were considering it. Go on - go for it! If you have seen my web pages, you will know I want to hand out Real Jobs, not just effete 'monitoring the Mayor'. We will need to earn the right to real power. I feel the limited power for the Mayor & Assembly is just in case Ken Dyingstone cannot be stopped. Best wishes, Ken

Monday 22nd February 1999

I rang the London Labour Party, as Chris Smith suggested & was told that, although the closing date for GLA candidates was end of this week, the Mayor was still in deep freeze & that Terry Ashton had been posted (interesting word) to Millbank for a few months.

Thursday 25th February 1999

To: Guardian Online **Subject: Using the web**

Dear Online, The latest delay in Labour selecting its Mayor of London candidate gives you more time

...I helped to set up. Simon Clarke & Rowena Champion soon turned up, then Sue Cartwright. In Trafalgar Square (we went down the Embankment to Westminster Bridge, then up Whitehall), I met Ryan Kemp & the RCG bunch, including Richard Roche, whom I invited to the Mayor's celebration party. The RCG are right behind me as Mayor - is this a good thing? Someone (Simon?) commented that there were not many black people & I said that racism was a white problem, not a black one. The Kurds were out in force but they have a real fight on their hands & appear to be well organised world-wide these days, probably thanks to the Internet.

Thursday 4th March 1999

...I was having lunch with Cathy (*Ross - Curator of the Museum of London*)...She had not looked at our web site, so the answer to many of her questions was, 'Look at the web site'. ...She was interested in my Mayor bid but thinks Heather Rabbatts will get it. I told her of my plan to have the Beeb in at the weekend immediately after I am elected to film me emulsion painting my temporary office & rapping out instructions to a secretary for the Monday. She is less convinced now of Simon, the Museum Director's credentials & said that, at a do for possible very rich sponsors, he hustled them past the poll-tax riot painting fast. I said if I was Mayor, I would try to break the City & sack Simon.I bought an Evening Standard, as it had a headline about Blair's Dark Horse for Mayor which said Heather has pulled out of the race:-

Blair urges London to 'get serious' over Mayor

by Julia Hartley-Brewer - Political reporter

TONY BLAIR today called on the people of London and the Labour Party to "get serious" about the choice of an elected Mayor. The Prime Minister also dropped a strong hint that the Labour candidate will not be Ken Livingstone or any of the runners announced so far, but a dark horse who has yet to emerge. Mr Blair refused to be drawn directly on Mr Livingstone's high profile campaign to be chosen as Labour's candidate for Mayor this autumn and to win the election in May 2000. However, he made it clear that, despite Mr Livingstone's noisy efforts, the real contest has yet to begin.

The Prime Minister said that with "the right person" in the job, an elected Mayor could provide "a great boost" for London.

He went on: "It's time to get serious about the position of Mayor. I'm sure there'll be lots of people coming forward. I've got no doubt at all we've not anyway near seen the full field." His words could put a shadow over the hopes of the early runners including ministers Glenda Jackson, Nick Raynsford and Tony Banks - who have expressed an interest in the post.

Meanwhile, Heather Rabbatts, chief executive of Lambeth, today pulled out of the race to become mayor, opting instead to stay on at the Labour authority.

Ms Rabbatts has extended her £120,000-a-year contract, due to end in May next year, until April 2001. The 43-year-old was regarded by some as a strong candidate for mayor because of her high-profile, something which is rare among council chief executives.

Her withdrawal comes as Patti Boulaye, one of Prince Charles's favourite singers, said she will run as a Tory candidate for a Greater London Assembly seat. The Nigerian-born singer said today: "I believe that I have a mission to not only serve the interests of all people, but also to bring as many of the black and minority community to Conservative views."

There was also an article about London First's spec for mayor:-

What London's mayor will need to succeed

Business campaign group London First has come up with a wish-list of qualities a headhunter might demand in the capital's first mayor. PETER KELLNER reports

LONDON'S first directly elected mayor should feel equally at ease on the streets of Tottenham and in the

year for the mayor should be to improve London's economic and social life, as measured by such performance indicators as increasing GDP per head, reducing unemployment and crime, and improving the transport system and environment. London First acknowledges that national policy decisions "will have a huge bearing on the success of London, but the electorate will still look to the mayor to make a difference". In these circumstances, the ideal mayor as described by London First would require a range of talents that even the most experienced headhunter would have difficulty finding in a single person.

Apart from being an "excellent communicator" with experience of dealing with the media, the mayor should have "experience of setting up something from scratch, handling large budgets and balancing social and economic priorities". As well as needing modern management skills, the mayor will need a proven ability to handle crises, understanding of London's voluntary sector and multi-cultural communities, and to be "at home with both the electorate and the over-seas investor".

In case anyone is tempted to look further afield for such a person, in the manner of a football club seeking a new manager, the job specification insists that the mayor "must have lived or worked in London for some time and be seen by the electorate to be a Londoner".

Implicit in this document is a challenge to all the political parties to select candidates who are able to do far more than win favour with local activists.

Robert Gordon-Clark, deputy chief executive of London First, says: "We do not expect any one candidate to score 10 out of 10. What we are doing is asking the parties to decide their priorities and then to ensure that their candidates have the skills to carry out their programme. The choice of the first mayor is especially important. He or she will set down precedents and guidelines that will set the course for future mayors. Having a directly elected mayor is an exciting innovation. The capital cannot afford for it to go wrong."

To: Editor - Evening Standard **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, In discussing London First's excellent specification for Mayor of London, you seem to have left me off your list of rivals. Perhaps you should visit my Mayor web site at: www.art-science.com/London which demonstrates how closely this Labour entrepreneur fits that spec. *(not published)*

Tuesday 9th March 1999

...A leaflet dropped through our door about the traffic scheme. I wrote this on Mayor notepaper:-

Roy Brunsdon Project Manager Highways Agency 49-53 Goldington Road Bedford MK40 3LL

Dear Roy, **A1 Upper Street/Duncan Street 'Improvement'**

I don't think this is going to work unless you remove all the parking places in the bit of Islington High Street behind the Mall. I suppose that, after the first half-dozen shunts, you would do this anyway. I have a more comprehensive traffic scheme for London on the transport page of my campaign web site which is: (etc)

From: Donald Hoodless, dhoodless@email.msn.com Subject: (Clearly, from my Mayor page comments form) I am curious to know whether you are getting any responses and invitations. You need a daily news comment/spot!

To: Donald Hoodless, dhoodless@email.msn.com **Subject: Re: Mayor**

Hi Don, I get some e-mail on the subject, wanting to know more or comment or ideas & have been invited to Cardiff University. (I might go but am having trouble sorting out dates). Otherwise, not a lot of interest. If you search for Ken Livingstone on Excite or AskJeeves, you get my Orgchart page!
Best wishes, Ken

Thursday 11th March 1999

Dear Editor, I must have missed Nick Kyriakos's attack on Ken Livingstone. Maybe KE means Nick laying down four criteria for a successful Mayor, all of which I meet & some of which, he doesn't. The only large organisation Ken L had charge of, he ran into the ground & deprived London of government for fourteen years.

If I make the shortlist, I hope he does, too. But we must have proper television debates to give party members the opportunity to sort the has-beens out from the about-to-be. As for Nick being a candidate himself, he is probably aware that he suffers from a fatal charisma gap. My bid has been visible on www.art-science.com/London/ since last April. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

From: QteC17HaLf@aol.com **Subject: please answer a question for me**

i am stuck with a project i have to do in school. i try to find info. on the net but was unsuccessful in doing so. please answer this question for me if you know it:

In New York City, we have a Major. London has a Lord Mayor. What similarities exists between both offices? What are the differences? What is an important issue currently being considered by each of these men? What solution to each problem would you suggest?

Thank you for your cooperation. -qtec17half

To: QteC17HaLf@aol.com **Subject: Re: please answer a question for me**

Hello there! The Lord Mayor of London is a strange office & none of the other mayors in England are in a similar position. An English mayor is the Chair of a Borough Council & English Boroughs are much smaller units than the five boroughs of New York. At a guess (& I should know as I have been there often) New York Boroughs have more than a million people. My London Borough (Islington) has 171,000 & another I represented had 205,000. Most English boroughs are smaller than these. The Mayor of an English borough is supposed to be non-political, although obviously, they (I use 'they' to mean 'he or she') were elected on a party ticket & they serve for a year. It is more of an honour than a position of power. Power in an English borough rests with the Leader of the majority group. Mayors are not paid. The City of London is a unique institution, going back centuries. Only about 6,000 people live there & they have no real say. The votes are held by the businesses, mostly financial institutions & the existing members of the City Common Council can overthrow the election of anyone elected they don't like. It is a deeply corrupt institution & really, a banker's club. The Lord Mayor is also elected for one year with much pomp & has a Lord Mayor's Show, where he (always a 'he' as an unwritten rule, & Britain does not have a written constitution like the USA but a lot of 'arrangements' & 'understanding', is that he is a Mason) rides around in a gold coach.

Some English boroughs are now appointing Executive Mayors, like the Mayor of an American city, e.g. New York. The unwritten British Constitution does not allow this - all power in Britain flows down from the Crown, not up from the People, as in the USA. However, the government is allowing this to happen as an experiment. London is different, though. The City of London is just the tiny square mile in the middle (which is why its population is only 6,000) but 'London' is about 900 square miles & has 7.5 million people & is divided into 32 boroughs (+ the City). Last year, there was a referendum asking people if they wanted a directly elected executive Mayor & 80% said 'yes'. This mayor will be similar to Mayor Giuliani, although they will have less power in most areas but more power over the police & traffic. I am campaigning to be selected as the representative of the Labour Party in the first Mayoral election, which will be held next year. You can find out more on my web site, which I think you must have seen otherwise, how come you e-mailed me?

As for the issues that are top of the mayors agenda, I don't know what the hot issues in New York are but in London, they are traffic & pollution, which are linked of course. The London Mayor's big job will be to stop car owners driving to work & get them back on public transport & they have the power to do so. They will also have to deal with institutional racism in the police, about which we recently had a Public Enquiry because of a case where a black boy was murdered by racist thugs in a London suburb & the police did not bother to investigate it properly, even though everyone knew who had done it.

To: Observer Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Will, The press has great power to promote or demote candidates for public office & while the Observer has ignored my now eleven month campaign, largely through the Internet, to be Mayor of London, it bothers to mention the joke candidature of Trevor Phillips, a man no doubt with many virtues but absolutely no relevant experience for the job. What are your criteria for reporting candidatures? Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

Managing Director of Art & Science Ltd, Council member of Charter 88 & 34 year Labour Party member.
(not published, as usual)

Monday 15th March 1999

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Trevor Phillips is not the third man to declare for Mayor of London: he is the fourth. Only blatant news-management by the papers (with the honourable exception of the Islington locals) has ignored my campaign, largely on the Internet, since last April. Unlike me, Trevor Phillips is totally unqualified for the job, which needs someone of both political & business experience. Yours etc. (not published, as usual)

Tuesday 16th March 1999

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Euro-trouble etc**

Dear Editor, The Euro-row is good news for Euro-enthusiasts as it is a welcome increase in democratic accountability, whatever spin the phobes wish to put on it. But we should be cautious about crying 'Corruption' in this country, where we have the most corrupt local authority in the Western World: the City of London. The opportunity of the Greater London Authority Bill should be used to hand its territory to the adjacent local authorities & its traditions, together with its cash mountain, to the London Mayor. English people like their revolutions dressed in the gold coach of continuity. (not published, as usual)

Thursday 18th March 1999

The Guardian On-Line supplement published my letter but got the case of London wrong, so I had to do a rapid & tiresome (because Unix file names are case-sensitive & the Mac's are not) amendment to my web site before 8, hoping that no one will look at it before then. At least, I have got *something* in the National Press at last.

Pip emma, I went to Cathy's Drugs show at the Museum of London & found a photo of Sue le Ray in the foyer exhibition of bikers. The Drugs show was small but I sent this e-mail:-

To: Cathy Ross **Subject: Drugs show**

Hello Cathy, I visited your drugs show today & liked the studiously neutral line between the two choices of policy. On the wall, you asked people to visit the web site & then gave an e-mail address. Eh? What I think is on my Mayor web site under crime.

In your bikers display, I think 'Sue' is my tenant in Stamford Hill. Insofar as you can recognise anyone in biker gear, it looks like her & she does have a whopping great motor byke (which, appropriately in this case, rhymes with dyke). Best wishes, Ken

Wednesday 24th March 1999

population I would need to know what you mean by this peculiar election promise before I give you my vote. I am a columnist with the Irish Post newspaper (the publication which serves Britain's Irish community), so would be grateful of a full reply to this. Mal

To: Mal Rogers, malrogers@zoo.co.uk **Subject: Your bid for mayorship**

Hi Mal, It was a dig at Ken Livingstone. I will not interfere in other nations' affairs as Mayor of London. It is not my business. However, I will do what I can for the ethnic minorities in their capacity as Citizens of London, of which I believe the biggest in London to be Irish. Best wishes, Ken

Sunday 4th April 1999

...We went to 'tea' with the Jacksons, who were impressed that Avis' carrot cake put Alice to sleep. Kim is still somewhat immobile after an operation on her hammer toes. Paul showed me the Greater London Assembly candidates stuff. They have interviews on Saturday next.

Sunday 11th April 1999

As it was sunny, if with a cold wind, we drove to Island Gardens & walked along the Greenwich river path to the 'Cutty Sark' pub & back. Then we called at Bullfrogs, now with a new frontage but losing its raffish image & had coffee & cakes in a café opposite. There are a few too many derelict shops in Greenwich which will benefit from my Mayor's Galleries scheme.

Tuesday 13th April 1999

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Lorry protest**

Dear Editor, The Lorry Protest demonstrates that tax harmonisation, demonised by the Euro-phobes, is essential if we are going to make this Union work. It would also be an opportunity for some rationalisation. In this particular case:-

1. Abolish vehicle taxes
2. Abolish tolls
3. Make private diesel cars illegal
4. Calculate the true costs of roads & load it all onto fuel taxes. Use diesel/petrol discrimination to discourage frivolous private car use. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Thursday 15th April 1999

...while I went to the Pensioners Forum room in the Providence Place flats for a meeting arranged by St. Mary's Ward addressed by Mark Seddon, the Editor of 'Tribune' & now a member of Labour's NEC. This was 'better than expected', as he is nothing like as loony as his fellow 'Grassroots Alliance' NEC members, Liz Davies & Pete Willsman. I slagged them off in one of the two questions sessions & significantly, he defended Liz but never mentioned Pete. He knew I was a Mayor candidate & a member of the Charter 88 Council. How?

Monday 19th April 1999

...I then went off to Capital Lettings...Sally & Angela did not know I was running for Mayor of London, so I told them why me?

From: Phil Kelly and Dorothy Jones, kellyjones@email.msn.com **Subject: Greater London Assembly**
I have been accepted on to the panel for candidates for the Greater London Assembly and I am writing to ask for

*You can phone me on 0171 272 6666 at home, 0171 632 2116 at work, e-mail me at kerryjones@communications.com or write to me at 56 Windsor Road, London N7 6JL.
I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Phil Kelly*

To: Phil Kelly Subject: Re: Greater London Assembly

Hi Phil, Congratulations. We'll support you if you support Ken for Mayor. (Details on www.art-science.com/London/). Fraternal greetings, Avis Saltsman & Ken Baldry

Saturday 24th April 1999

Early lunch, as the 'Republic' AGM started at 2 with a talk by Tony Benn, now looking rather old. This pissed Avis right off, as she is very New Labour these days & won't tolerate any criticism of them. I agree they are doing good by stealth but am not as happy (wrong word) as she is about the bombing. Anyway, most of what he said was ok but he was not as good as Roy Greenslade on the press year (criticism of the Royals is increasing in the press), Jonathan Freedland, who got the Republican of the Year award & Ted Pearce, coolly intellectual as usual. Benn completely misunderstood my question about how the democratically elected executive Head of State of the London Region should relate to the self-appointed one in a large house by St. James' Park. It was unreasonably hot in the Regent Street Poly...

Monday 26th April 1999

...In the evening at 9, I went round to the Jacksons, as Paul was going to give me the benefit of his experience as a GLA candidate for candidate. This did not go too badly & was a valuable learning experience, which showed I have to get more facts together. However, I stood up to the press conference reasonably well & learned a lot.

Tuesday 27th April 1999

From: Berry,MP (ug), M.P.Berry@lse.ac.uk Subject: The Invisible Campaign

Ken, I appreciate your enthusiasm but frankly nobody has a clue who you are. If you are to stand any chance whatsoever of winning the Labour nomination then you'd better start some sort of PR campaign NOW. It's all very well to say that you're cleaner than clean but winning elections has nothing to do with taking the moral high ground. It's all about strategy and that's why Peter Mandelson, whether you like it or not, got the Labour Government into power. You are probably a breath of fresh air in the race so start to capitalise on those advantages. Good luck and I hope to see your name in print soon. Matt Berry

To: Berry,MP (ug), M.P.Berry@lse.ac.uk Subject: Re: The Invisible Campaign

Hello Matt, Thanks for the message. Getting publicity is the hardest part & hundreds of letters to papers have not been published. However, the 'New Statesman' has published a couple & I have some support from my local Cabinet Minister. The real campaign for selection starts after the Spring Election season with official procedures by Millbank Tower. There are rules about how much publicity one can seek & I believe the other Ken has broken these. Best wishes, Ken

To: Richard Rogers Subject: Re: Your interview with 'New Statesman'

Hello, I enjoyed that very interesting interview but there are more Mayor of London aspirants than is immediately apparent. I am one but getting publicity, apart from local papers & my Mayor web site, is very difficult, although the Labour Party selection procedures, which start after the Euro-Elections, are likely to be fair. I mention your web site on mine & asked for a link but one of your partners told me where to get off. We have met at a Charter 88 party. I serve on the Charter Council.
Best wishes, Ken Baldry

respected her achievement & she assumed he wanted to get in on her coat tails (although she did not put it so blatantly), as she has a very good CV & will almost certainly get on the GLA. I told her what we had done on Monday night & said I assumed I was supposed to tell her. Jeremy Corbyn addressed us on sustainability after but has to leave to vote, so it was a discussion, not a question time after. That creepy Liberal Councillor, Richard Heseltine talked about parking zones, giving me an 'in' for what Andrew called after, a Party Political Broadcast for Mayor, which Avis said I did very well. I talked about my access zones & how I hoped to have free public transport in the inner zone.

Sunday 2nd May 1999

To: Sir Norman Foster, enquiries@fosterandpartners.co.uk **Subject: GLA Building**

Hello Sir Norman, I could not find the GLA Building among your projects on your web site. As a candidate for candidate, I have an interest. From the illustrations I have seen, there is no provision for a big display, so that the citizens can watch the Assembly in action. Would that be possible? Best regards, Ken Baldry

At 12.30, we went to the Indian Ocean restaurant on the Holloway Road (in Islington South) for the Islington North Constituency 100th birthday of the Labour Party lunch (£25, £20 concessions = Avis). We went as part of my Mayor campaign & I put leaflets on every chair. It was more interesting than it might have been, as I was surprised how many people I did not know, knew me & that I was a Mayor candidate. The speaker was Pauline Green, the cop who leads the Euro-parliament Socialist Group. Jeremy (*Corbyn MP*) had to leave early to take his kids to Arsenal, so spoke relatively briefly but got in a dig at South which was unnecessary. It was amusing to see Paul (Jackson) sucking up to Jennette, to Avis' disgust. She thinks Jennette is mischievous but what a Deputy Mayor she would make, with those personal skills & being the 'opposite' of me (small, fat, female, black).

Thursday 6th May 1999 Adobe InDesign event Mountbatten Hotel, Seven Dials 0915

I walked down by 0920 & had a politically incorrect breakfast of croissants & bacon rolls on Adobe. There was no one I knew but I did have a chat to a guy & later, a woman (Claire Johnson) to whom I said we were plotting the downfall of the next Tory government, just to be on the safe side. This went down well & I gave them my Mayor cards....

Friday 7th May 1999

....A review of John Carvel's updated book on Ken Livingstone by Derek Draper in this week's 'New Statesman' suggests that Blair might let him have the Mayor of London job, as Livingstone has crawled so far that Blair has him bound to him. I don't suppose Draper would have written that without clearing it with No. 10.

Tuesday 11th May 1999

From: MarFranks@aol.com Subject: Good luck

Dear Ken, I met you today at Avis' exhibition in Goodge place - little knowing I was talking to the future Mayor. Sadly we are not in a position to vote as out-of-townies but your campaign seems honest and straightforward - I hope that's a compliment.

Did you say some of your music was on the site? I've looked but unsuccessfully. Perhaps you could let me know. Many thanks Regards Martin Franks - Cambridge

Thursday 27th May 1999

Dear Ken Thank you for your letter of may 27th to Terry Ashton concerning the shortlisting for the Mayor of London candidature.

The NEC has yet to provide the details of this procedure and we await it's (sic) decision. Once we have the information it will be widely publicised.

With best wishes. Yours sincerely David Wilkinson Acting Regional Director

Wednesday 16th June 1999

...Meanwhile, I was at the St Peter's Ward Meeting (!) which was in Nick Milton's (of Greenpeace) garden, as the organisation consists just of the Nicks Milton & Butcher at the moment. Alan Barnard & his woman Sharon, were there & a new woman, Joy (lawyer from Exeter) & Nick Butcher turned up. 6. Nick had supplied wine & snacks & it was a very pleasant little party which did actually get around to nominating Paul Jackson & Jennette Arnold as GLA candidates. I did a bit of publicity for my Mayor bid & told stories. Later, I rang Jennette to tell her & she requested a contact list of Islington South GMC delegates.

Thursday 17th June 1999

E-mail first thing, one about the invasion by Walmart:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Walmart**

Dear Editor, So the government 'first choice' is for big shopping developments to be in town centres. Fine. What is the second choice? As Mayor of London with a strong Transport agenda, I would block all planning applications by the likes of Walmart providing the existing supermarket firms agreed to an across-the-board price cut of, say, 25%. Your sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published*)

To: Jennette Arnold **Subject: South GMC**

Hello Jennette, These are the e-mail addresses which cover most South GMC members:- (*list*)

I have not got the 'phone numbers of the others but there aren't many others! I would like to put you up on my Mayor web site as my Deputy Mayor candidate but only with your permission.

Love to you both, Ken

Monday 21st June 1999

E-mail first:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: London**

Dear Editor, So Ken Livingstone thinks Jeffrey Archer would not make a bad Mayor for London? Anyone who does not take positive steps to inhibit or stop motorists from commuting during the Rush Hour will be a terrible Mayor. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published*)

Wednesday 23rd June 1999

...After, I had to go to the CLP Executive Committee, which was a bore & on to the Fabians, which wasn't. Eight of the GLA hopefuls had come along to address us, including Cllr. Sally Mulready from Hackney, who knew who I was as she had found my Mayor web site. They all had different emphases & stayed for a Q&A session after, although the ethnics left for a Black Section meeting after a bit. Meg Hillier lobbied us heavily outside (not just because she is 7 months pregnant) but I think she is a bit immature. I want Avis to vote for Jennette (as I will be away) but she does not trust Jennette.

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Freedom of Information**

Dear Editor, As a long-serving Council member of Charter 88, I naturally support your stand on Freedom of Information & have pledged, in my bid to become Labour's candidate for Mayor of London, that everything possible (for example, advice goes on with my annotations but contract bids do not) will be posted on the World Wide Web directly after it has passed over my desk. Yours sincerely, *(not published)*

Paul has something else on but this lead to more conversation about his concerns about GLA nomination. We had to report that the Fabian's EC, which undemocratically stitched up the Fabian GLA selection had put the arch-failure Derek Sawyer in for both North & South, Jennette for North & Meg Hillier for South. Now, I am not going to complain about that, as I want the Fabian's 'favourite sone' nomination for Mayor. Avis went ballistic when Paul said the Co-op had put Talal Karim in for both.

Saturday 26th June 1999

...E-mail:-

*From: Adrian McMenamin, adrian@mcmemon.co.uk Subject: Form posted from Mozilla
Greetings from the Trevor Phillips campaign!*

To: Adrian McMenamin, adrian@mcmemon.co.uk **Subject: Re: Form posted from Mozilla**
Hello Adrian, Thank you for the greetings. You are on the wrong campaign! How about joining the real one. Best wishes, Ken

Bloody cheek!

Thursday 8th July 1999

...E-mail (42 items, many junk):-

*From: Colin Young, Colin@dergunerz.freemove.co.uk (Mozilla posting off my Mayor web page)
I'm all for a mayor with an open mind, without a shadow of a doubt, it's about time the post was filled. Mind you, if Jeffrey Archer gets the job, I'm off...
I'm writing a project at the moment about transport and transport policies in London over the last century. My intention is to give a historical and anecdotal overview of the London transport system since it's earliest incarnation to the present day. At some point in the proceedings I expect I'll be able to offer more by way of suggestions or advice, but at the moment I'm just kickstarting the project. I'm sorry to say it's me desperately seeking help with contacts past or present in the transport arena. Any and all help would be very gratefully received and thanks will be made known!
I enjoyed reading your website and find myself in agreement with you on many points.
Would it be acceptable to quote you in my work? Thank very much and good luck! Colin Young*

To: Colin Young, Colin@dergunerz.freemove.co.uk **Subject: Transport**
Hello Colin, Thanks for the message & encouragement. You can quote me if you attribute the quote. You need to contact Lynn Sloman of Transport 2000 at e-mail:- transport2000@transport2000.demon
Best wishes, Ken Baldry P.S. Learn to spell.

Sunday 11th July 1999

Beckenham & others I can't recall. Because they were packed in tightly in the garden & it was not too hot, it was the best Fabian party we have been to & much appreciated. Nicky Gavron came to lobby for the GLA & Joe Simpson to do so for Meg. Nicky is now rather pro-me, so who has been getting at her? After it packed up at 1830, we did a sketchy clear-up & went to the party fund-raising dinner at InterMezzo in Liverpool Road, which was unnecessary (as among other things, Avis had done a large salmon & most other people brought good food). The food was mediocre but the company, including Nicky again, was good....

Monday 26th July 1999 Charter 88's 'End of the Peer Show' at Church House

We took the tube & got there at 0920, as no hold-ups, despite the irritating closures. There were several sessions & most speakers were keen on a directly & fully elected house. The blacks, lead by Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, were adamant against tokenism except Trevor Phillips, who did me a favour by being a total Blair creep & it showing. I got in a question it that last session to advertise my own Mayor bid, about the Royal Prerogative screwing it all up, which did me no harm. I also gave Joshua Rozenberg my Mayor card. We were back before 6 at the end of a very satisfactory day.

Friday 30th July 1999

E-mail:-

To Guardian Editor **Subject: Freedom of Information**

Dear Editor, The passport row exemplifies why we need a proper Freedom of Information Act. Time & again, speaking for Charter 88, I have emphasised that official information is our information. As taxpayers, we have paid for it & own it. In my platform for Mayor of London (www.art-science.com/London), I have stated that everything passing across my desk will go on the Internet & that will include all PFI contracts. No candidate who fails to make a similar pledge should be considered by London's public. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published*)

Saturday 31st July 1999 Charter 88 Council Meeting

This was in the ORT Conference Centre in Camdem's Albert Street, a very attractive road I did not know. But what I could & did do was walk along the canal to Royal College Street on a rather warm morning (open neck pink shirt). Considering it was at the height of the holiday season, it was very well attended & some people had to sit round the outside of the main square of tables. Paul Farthing, now much improved i.e. less pompous, was in the Chair as Sue was not around. Apart from the business, which gave me opportunities to advertise my Mayor campaign, we discussed regional government in the morning, driven by John Tomaney of the North-East, which has its own regional constitutional convention & is the furthest ahead of the regions demanding self-government. I said they could rely on the support & example of the Mayor if it was me (whereupon Paul F. said I should put 50p in the swear box if I mentioned it again. I did and did). There was much discussion of the form regional government should take but this was all academic & nothing new, given that the four models are all different. I, as usual, looked to the German Länder. After, we had a session on where the Charter should go now. We split into five groups & I was with Claire Rayner & Sue Frost Murray (who did not like my music, i.e. she said it was 'interesting'). Like me, Claire was keen on dismantling the Royal Prerogative, which is the biggest bugbear of the Charter programme & the hardest to get rid of. I said it was ok to attack the government's constitutional agenda, as it was like Caligula's New Anio aqueduct - he did the easy bits round hills & on the flat & could point to a lot of progress but by missing out the stone arch sections, he did not finish & no water flowed. After, the plenary agreed that we needed to connect up our agenda with people's normal concerns (nothing new here) but I will need the

Dear Beeb, I heard Ken Livingstone, Trevor Phillips and Glenda Jackson described as the three Labour declared candidates for Mayor of London. What about me? I declared on April 19th 1988 & the other three liberally looted my web-site (www.art-science.com/London) for ideas today. I suggest you look at it yourself & not leave me out next time the Mayor aspirants have an airing.
Best wishes, Ken Baldry

P.S. To show how far my campaign has spread, here is a comment from Denmark:-

"dear Ken Baldry,

I am a Danish citizen who have just returned from a one week stay in London.

It must be ca. my 8th visit to London - a city one can't but love for all the interesting, vibrant and beautiful things.

But this time I was struck more than before with the pollution (probably because of the summer heat) that made the City almost unbearable!

So I have a suggestion for you as a possible new Mayor of London:

MAKE OXFORD STREET AND PICCADILLY CIRCUS PEDESTIAN AREAS.

Both are marred by the buses, taxis and cars, pedestrians have a hard time crossing the street as well as breathing; both places have shops that would benefit very much from a more peaceful (I hope!) and cleaner pedestrian environment. Taxis must be able to find different streets, and The Tube should accommodate those who are just going through the area.

In the heart of Copenhagen we have "Stroget", a very long street that was made a pedestrian street many years ago. At the time some shop owners worried that trade would be harmed, but instead trade has boomed no end.

Maybe it would be an idea for you to go see Copenhagen.

Sincerely, Ingeborg Rorbye Copenhagen, Denmark"

To: Ingeborg Rørbye, Jungild-Rorbye@post.tele.dk **Subject: Re: Your comments**

Dear Ingeborg, Thank you very much for your comments. You may have seen from my 'environment' web page that I show a photo of Stroget as an example of what I would like to do in London. Copenhagen is an example to us all, as it has been done sensibly. There are a few narrow car routes through the pedestrianised area, I noticed. Oxford Street is restricted to buses and taxis at the moment & I may send them along Wardour Street & close Oxford Street. There are a lot more traffic restrictions around Piccadilly Circus than there used to be. What I need to devise are workable routes for buses while keeping the cars out. I will certainly send the Traffic Director for London (yes, there is one) to Copenhagen & Vienna to learn his job. The Tube is inadequate to carry much more traffic but buses are under-used in London.

Best wishes, Ken

Thursday 5th August 1999

Much of the day spent getting out my letter to the constituencies, which was:-

Dear Comrade, **Mayor of London campaign**

This is to remind you of my now 15 month campaign to be the Labour Candidate for Mayor of London. Some of the details of what & why & some policy are on my web site at:-

www.art-science.com/London/

The selection procedure is still undefined but will apparently take place after the party conference,

You may recall that I was a councillor in the London Borough of Hounslow in the 70s & chaired the Libraries Committee.

after the main paragraph. I took one to Barnsbury Street at 1500 but Stuart had already left for his holiday & I gave it to a muffin (*American political assistant*), who actually finishes today.

Friday 6th August 1999

There was an interview with Ken Livingstone in the 'New Statesman' where he said he would have a depression if not elected Mayor of London. I wrote this:-

To: Guardian editor & New Statesman editor **Subject: Ken Livingstone**

Dear Editor, So Ken Livingstone would have a depression if not elected Mayor of London. Diddums! Some of us brush ourselves down & get on with life after disappointments (in my case, witnessing the accidental death of my first wife). The mayoralty is not a therapeutic rôle for depressives but a serious job, which is why I put my name forward (see www.art-science.com/London).

Saturday 7th August 1999

The Guardian edited my letter heavily but printed it. This e-mail explains what happened:-

To: Nicky Gavron, nickygavron@broadlands17.demon.co.uk **Subject: GLA**

Hello Nicky, Congrats on getting two seats on the GLA. It's a big responsibility deciding which one to dump. The point I was making at the mediocre InterMezzo dinner was that the May-and-Assembly need to find lots of cheap, quick, pragmatic things to do to avoid disappointing the public, like closing roads at one end to kill off rat runs. I have also added some stuff about shotguns on my Crime web page after discussing it with the cops. The Guardian stuffed me today by editing down my letter, chopping everything after the parenthesis. This was the original:-

"(letter)"

So the joke is on me! Best wishes, Ken

Monday 30th August 1999

...I did manage to get back to Ruth Clerk at Erith CLP, who wanted more info about my Mayor campaign & said that Glenda Jackson is campaigning hard. I made comments about failed Ministers of London Transport which Ruth agreed with. However, she (*Glenda*) has a full-time team ringing round.

Thursday 2nd September 1999

...One e-mail:-

*From: Alastair Stuart, stu@rtsmail.junglelink.co.uk **Subject: Mayor**
If I vote for you to be mayor, what kind of powers will I be giving you?*

To: Alastair Stuart **Subject: Re: Mayor**

Hello Alastair, Thank you for your interest. The powers, such as they are, are laid down in the Greater London Authority Act. Essentially, the Mayor can spend some block grant from the government & raise money from motorists. The block grant sounds a lot (£3.5 billion) but that is mostly taken up by the police & fire service. The most important power the Mayor has is to set an agenda which the boroughs will need to follow to avoid looking craven/foolish/uninterested in their citizens. To see how this

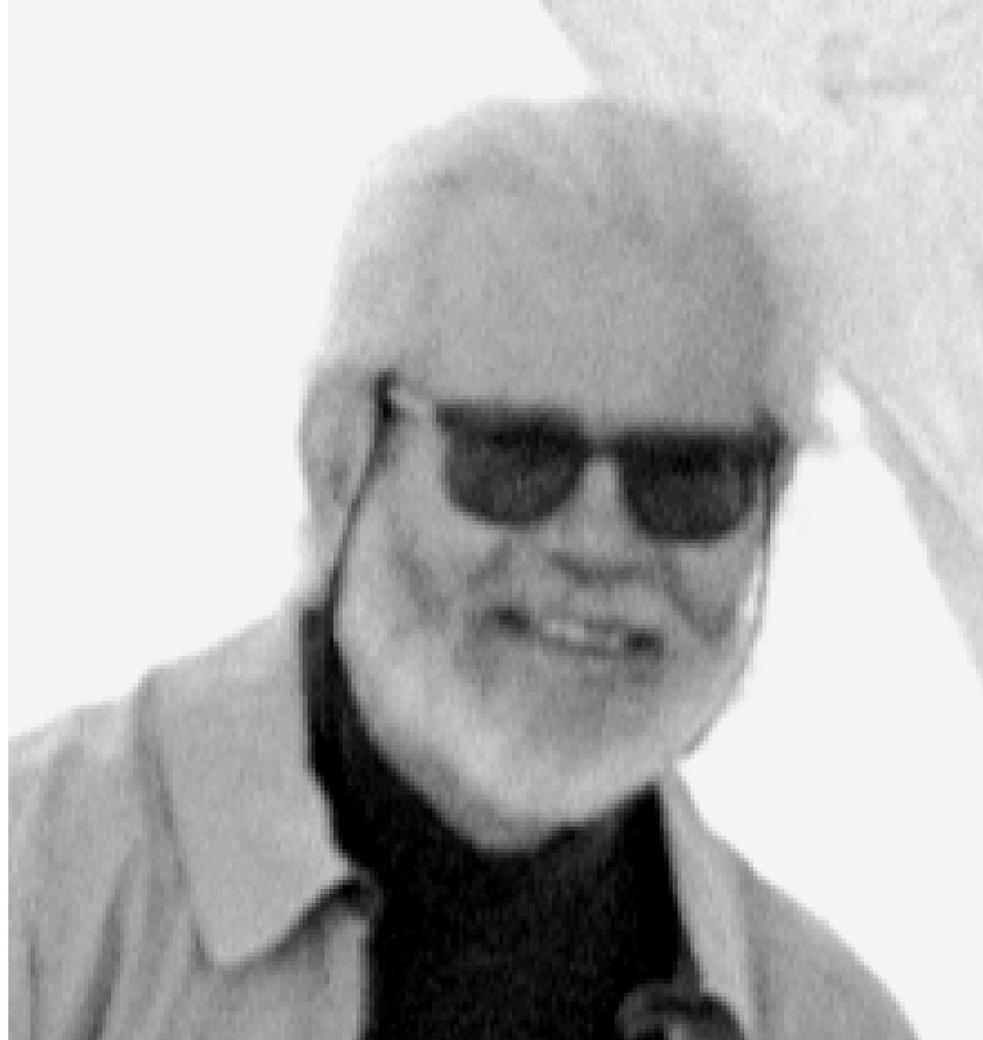
attendance certainly suffered as a result. Very Hot Day. I put up the wanted notice on the next page. I used the despised courier font to make it look like the Wild West. These, I had made early this morning, together with a booklet version of the web pages. I took one coloured & two black-&-white copies. The B&W ones went. Glenda Jackson was the Guest of Honour (!?) & we exchanged courteous greetings, with her having the grace to mention me in her speech, the only substance in it, which should surprise no one. The important thing was it got me another interview with the High & I & photos with Glenda which they are likely to publish. Doreen's hidden husband, Terry, was there & her friend Mary, who also does a lot for the party. Meg Hillier's new four day old baby, Tom, came to the 1st of many Labour Party events, one supposes. I spent some time with a nice, new black family from Barnsbury, Jennifer the teacher, her sister Lee, a lawyer & husband Ken & daughter. Paula Beattie was presumably there in her rôle as a Glenda assistant. The Jacksons, as usual, Hassan, Richard Hall, Nick Milton, getting on well with Lottie, a Swedish governess, Joy, Derek, Stuart of course, who explained to me that the central Party has taken on 50 apprentices & he has resigned so we can select our own agent, rather than have one foisted upon us. Diane Brace's excellent salads but she took my congratulations as a vote-buying attempt. Various other bods. I was home by 1640. Avis had not been long back & was as hot & sweaty as me & this was after a shower. She had had a very enjoyable day, which was more than I had, as the party was dull but I had to go to counter Glenda. Someone told her I would make a good Mayor but she had forgotten who. Anyway, she was very affectionate toward 'her mayor'.

Wednesday 8th September 1999

...To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Ken Livingstone's web site has ripped much policy off mine, which has been up since April last year. Why do you concentrate your attention of Labour candidates who are unlikely to be selected, such as Livingstone (self-admitted mental health problems), Glenda Jackson (inactive Minister for London Transport) & Trevor Jackson (no experience)? Labour will need & doubtless select, a 'can do' candidate, for example, me. Why not help open up the field a bit. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

This was because Ken Livingstone has declared & set up a web site, although they hve not published the URL. I resubmitted my pages after adding him, Glenda & Trevor to the META tags, so people searching for them will come up with me.



Ken Baldry

for

Labour Mayor of London

Reward

would be a pointless waste of taxpayers money to do otherwise. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (not published, as usual)

Friday 10th September 1999

The High & I did me proud with this:-

Glenda faces new Ken threat

ROFF Hattersley did not raince his words. "She was a tremendous actress who, precisely, chose to become a non-descript politician."

She, of course, was Glenda Jackson, and she was hosting a Labour garden party in Canonbury on Sunday to garner support in her bid to become Mayor of London.

Having subjected herself to Jerry Springer the previous evening, Ms Jackson has gone on a charm offensive to win her party's nomination. "I love the idea I never smile. I don't see myself as doing," she told *Diary*.

But she reserved stronger words for Mr Hattersley, whose caustic comments appeared in *Saturday's Guardian*. "How the hell would he know?" Ms Jackson snipped. "He's never been in the Chamber when I've been there."

As for her mayoral campaign, her manifesto should be ready in time for Labour's Conference. For those who cannot wait, her desire is to alleviate deprivation in London. "13 of its wards are among the poorest in Britain," she said. And her catchphrase? She wants a "London for all Londoners".

Learning that her chances of success were "very good", Ms



"I find you guilty of defrauding your clients and sentence you to five years in a surprisingly spacious studio apartment with excellent views of the exercise yard."

Jackson said it would be wrong to assume that her hosting of the event in place of Chris Smith who was on Government business could be seen as a sign of covert support from the Culture Secretary. "And her unique selling point?" "I've lived here all my adult life," she said. "All of the most important events in my life, other than being born, have happened here."

ANOTHER man finding it easy to be rude about Ms Jackson was fellow mayoral hopeful Ken Baldry, who was also at the garden party.

Mr Baldry, who lives in Grant Road, Islington, believes that other mayoral candidates have been busy punching his address, which he has posted on his website

(www.art-science.com).

As someone who aims to root out the capital's transport problems, should he get elected, *Diary* wondered what he thought of Ms Jackson's achievements as Transport Minister for London.

"I prefer not to comment if I can't say anything nice about somebody," he said, before adding: "What achievements?" How to win friends...

STAYING with New Labour, or rather new labour, congratulatory to former mayor Meg Hillier, who has given birth to a booming baby boy.

Ms Hillier, who will cozen the Islington constituency in next May's elections to the Greater London Assembly, gave birth last Wednesday. He weighed in at 9lb 1oz and has been named Tom.

Another Labour councillor

who is also celebrating a new arrival is Mary Creagh. But hold the baby alarm - a car alarm is what she needs. Having just passed her driving test, Ms Creagh is the proud owner of a Renault Clio. "Call me Nicole and I'd call you Papa," she said.

FROM arrivals to departure: Gina McGrath, the Ken Dodd of Islington's voluntary sector - she is from Kilmory Ash - is about to embark on a year-long world tour, beginning in Thailand and taking in Vietnam, New Zealand and the USA.

The personable Ms McGrath has been director of Islington Voluntary Action Council for just 15 months. "I will certainly miss the fun of council meetings," she said. "I've been to a lot of meetings in other boroughs, but none as lively as Islington's."



Glenda Jackson and Ken Baldry

approached the stunts, I did not know Lucy had German grand parents on one side. Linda Hsara was there & Keith something, who played the harp he had made in the woodwork shop. Stella, Keith & Glenda Jackson, who turned up while I was in the exhibition & talked to Avis, all got free 'Sea & Mountains' CDs.

Sunday 12th September 1999

To: Georgette Djaba gdjaba@globalnet.co.uk **Subject: Millennium bug**

Hello Georgette, I have only just (Sunday night) found your card again, so you have not been in my e-mail address book. I have circulated all the London Labour Parties who's addresses I have (& Millbank won't give me the others) with another letter about my Mayor campaign. But almost more important just now really is Y2K. I circulated my whole address book with the stuff below, am trying to get a Street Committee organised here & when I do, will 'go to press'. This is a genuine scare, not just a mayor campaign gimmick! Best wishes, Ken (+ *the big memo*)

Tuesday 14th September 1999

E-mail:-

From: Georgette Djaba Subject: Re: Millennium Bug

Hi Ken How are you doing? Are you going to the Party Conference this year? I hope to go on Sunday and Tue See Ya

To: Georgette Djaba **Subject: Re: Conference**

Hi Georgy, Things are complicated by Avis going off to a conference from the previous Wednesday to Sunday & taking the truck. I had hoped to go but we do not yet have tickets, although I expect that will be sorted at the GMC on Wednesday (tomorrow). If you're going on Tuesday, I might, with armfuls of leaflets. Best wishes, Ken

Thursday 16th September 1999

It's obvious what this was about:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, So Catherine Bennett thinks 'true democrats should start their own campaign' for Mayor of London. I did, by setting up a web site in April last year but your and other papers adamant refusal to give me any publicity has made it rather difficult. Perhaps you could make a belated start now by having a look at www.art-science.com/London. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Saturday 18th September 1999

Another Open House Day...The Banqueting House was open & showed a video of Charles I getting the chop (not quite) but I thought it a good place to hold my Mayor party! There was a pensioners demo down Whitehall & I gave away the rest of my Mayor leaflets (20 of them) & we spoke to the Islington contingent.

To: Georgette Djaba **Subject: Conference**

Hello Georgy, Disaster! I should have booked a conference ticket in June or something but no one told us at the time, so I won't be able to go. In the past, we have sorted this out at the previous GMC. Best wishes, Ken

Wednesday 22nd September 1999

From: Mike Collings, mcollings@cableintet.com Subject: Sorry
Can't understand this, the correct address is nothing like yours? Sorry anyway, I'll vote for you anyway you
can't be worse than some of the others. Mike.

To: Mike Collings **Subject: Re: sorry**

Hi Mike, Thank you for your support. Our domain is art-science.com but the e-mail address patches through to ken@cableintet.co.uk. You are not the only one to send something to 'ken' & it ending up with me. Best regards, Ken Baldry

Monday 27th September 1999

The 'New Statesman' only arrived today with a glossy insert from Trevor Phillips. E-mail:-

To: New Statesman Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, I notice that a candidate for Labour Mayor of London has distributed a very posh leaflet, albeit rather vacant of content, with the NS last week. Is this a free service available to all Mayor candidates, including me? Or did you charge him? If so, how much? And how much did the leaflets cost him? Are there any limits as to how much Mayor aspirants can spend? Being relatively poor, I have used the cheapest option, the Internet (see www.art-science.com/London) but I have had no guidelines, despite having informed Charles Square. If Labour politics is to go the way of American politics, where only the rich can join the game, it is not the party I joined. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Tuesday 28th September 1999

I had a call from Jenny Whittam of Bexleyheath Labour Party, inviting me as a Mayor candidate, to their coffee morning at 11:00 on November 12th (a Friday). Her number is 0208 304 0413 & the hall is Jenny Adamson House, 67 Pickford Lane, Bexleyheath.

Friday 1st October 1999

This e-mail is self-explanatory:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, So Nick Raynsford, Labour's charisma-free zone, is willing to take on all-comers in the contest to be Labour's candidate? He will not be able to unless all the declared candidates, including me who was the first to declare in April last year, are given a fair share of publicity. So why not guide your readers to www.art-science.com/London or are you worried that my programme is so credible, I might be elected? Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

Saturday 2nd October 1999

Then after a hasty lunch, to the Anglo-German Family History Society. In the interval, Gretchen Buhler asked me when the Mayor selection was to be. She & Tim said they kept looing in the press for me. I told them I was getting the cold shoulder & may have had the Black Spot put on me.

Monday 4th October 1999

Frank Dobson declared for Mayor, so I wrote this:-

I took the letter round to Charles Square & e-mailed the Evening Standard with the first message but the mailbox was full of Mayor stuff:-

To: Editor, letters@standard.co.uk **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, The Secretary of the Greater London Labour Party thinks there are five aspirants to being the Labour candidate. He has obviously forgotten me, despite being reminded often enough. He should have a look at www.art-science.com/London & remind himself who actually has the best policies. (*not published, as usual*)

From: Paul Convery, paulconvery@94gifford.freeserve.co.uk **Subject: The campaign for Mayor of London**

Nick Raynsford: "Time to get serious"

You will probably have heard that Nick Raynsford is running for Mayor. I attended his launch at Party Conference in Bournemouth on Thursday, when he said the position of mayor was "a serious job which calls for a serious candidate". I agree and hope that you will consider supporting Nick's campaign to secure the Labour Party nomination to beat Archer the Tories' candidate.

On Thursday Nick said what being serious means. "This is not a job for a dilettante or publicity seeker. The London mayoralty is too serious to be left to the photo opportunity chasers. It represents a major government achievement and the fulfilment of an election manifesto commitment. To complete the job it needs a committed, modern and serious London politician who can deliver."

"It is a post that will carry enormous responsibilities for the success of our city and the wellbeing of the seven million people who live there.

"It will require vision, courage and commitment on a grand scale, not to mention diplomatic skills and determination to get the policies right and to drive the programmes through."

Nick's campaign highlights 8 key areas for action:

- a.. tackling London's failing transport system
- b.. reducing crime and building confidence in the police service
- c.. ensuring that no-one lives in fear of abuse because of their race or colour of their skin
- d.. ensuring the London economy grows to everyone's benefit
- e.. improving the quality of the environment
- f.. making housing affordable
- g.. boosting the good health of all Londoners
- h.. promoting good, honest government

He also made it clear that he aims to beat other Labour contenders in a fair fight. Raynsford said that he " respects Ken Livingstone's right to stand, I wish to defeat him in an open and straight contest. And I'm entering in that spirit and with that determination."

But he said that Ken Livingstone represented "the past not the future".

Raynsford's campaign promises that "there will be no return to the divisive confrontational politics of the late 1970s and early 1980s which did so much damage to London."

"I want the Greater London Authority to be a successful authority. Abolition is not my end game."

To register your support or to help Nick Raynsford's campaign, contact Paul Convery (telephone 609-5175 or 0468-117120) or by reply to this email.

URL: www.paulconvery.freeserve.co.uk

From: Ryan Kemp, ryan@sbu.ac.uk To: Paul Convery **Subject: Re: The campaign for Mayor of London**
surprised that you've chosen to support Nick Raynsford out of all the other talent on offer... ryan

To: Paul Convery **Subject: Re: The campaign for Mayor of London**

Hi Paul, It is a pity you can't bring yourself to support local initiative, especially when it is as highly qualified for the job as me. To support a candidate for such a high profile job who has a 100% charisma

I have thoroughly enjoyed working on the EC and GC, (despite the iniquorate meetings!), and hope that someone will be able to continue the work of Youth and Student Officer. Should you, or anyone you know be interested, please let me know. I am trying to handover to someone who is keen to build-up the Youth/Student member and would like to pass on the work and experience to someone who is keen to build-up the Youth/Student Group.
Thanks again for giving me the chance to be so active in the CLP and good luck with the next year.
Warm wishes Katherine Rainwood

To: Katherine Rainwood (Comm), rainwood@msf.org.uk **Subject: Re: Islington South and Finsbury Young Labour**

Hi Katherine, Sorry to hear you are emigrating to the Third World beyond Highbury Corner. The lower Mayoral profile is not my fault - I cannot get the press to take me seriously. At least, when it is all over & I am Mayor or not, you new MP can stop treating me as a naughty boy every time we bump into each other! Best fraternal greetings, Ken

Wednesday 6th October 1999

I was rung by the Local Authorities Magazine about my Mayor bid. Apparently, there is a link to my web site from the Guardian's 'newsunlimited' site. Good. ...Then, on to the Ward Meeting in Nick Butcher's very nice flat. There was no speaker but he turned out to be me, talking about my Mayor of London bid & the lack of procedure. I also talked a lot about policy.

Thursday 7th October 1999

The Guardian web site describes me as 'independent', so I sent this:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London - correction**

Dear Editor, Your web page www.newsunlimited.co.uk/mayor describes me as an independent Labour candidate. In fact, I am trying to become the Official Labour candidate in competition with Glenda, Trevor, Nick, Frank & the other Ken, which is obvious from my web pages, I would have thought. Please alter your page to reflect this. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

We bought an Islington Gazette (in Sainsburys, still open at 1930) & they had an item about me & Y2K. I wrote this letter as a result:-

16 Thursday 7th October 1999

NEWSDESK 0181-340 0868. ADS 0181-340 0058 OR 0181-340 3322

SURVIVAL GUIDE TO 2000



ISLINGTON people are being told to hoard food and arm themselves to play off potential millennium chaos.

Local Party agent Ken Baldry has been accused of 'conspiracy' after asking the public to hoard food. He is to form a committee to start hoarding supplies from the year 2000.

By GRAEME PATFIELD

It was the last straw for Ken Baldry. He had been told to hoard food and arm himself to play off potential millennium chaos.

"Baldry is a mad man from the Islington area. He is asking the public to hoard food and arm themselves to play off potential millennium chaos."

Ken Baldry is a mad man from the Islington area. He is asking the public to hoard food and arm themselves to play off potential millennium chaos.

He could be inventing all the problems of the year 2000's chaos with his own hands.

Mr Baldry is a mad man from the Islington area. He is asking the public to hoard food and arm themselves to play off potential millennium chaos.

"We know some things are going to go wrong but we can't know which. I have stockpiled up with food, cash and I have gone further and got some staff to help me with it. I have them."

the lights stay on at midnight at the New Year, it does not mean we are out of the woods. As a 100% importing country, we are vulnerable to other nations' shambles. Many small firms have not prepared for the Millennium Bug & will go bust but not immediately.

As Mayor of London, I would allocate the job of looking after residual Millennium problems to an Assembly Member. There will still be some by May, believe me, because I have been in the computer industry for 34 years & have seen it all.

Friday 8th October 1999

I actually had an item in the High & I this week, as someone gave them my Millennium paper (I think I e-mailed it actually). (*Next page*).

Glenda Jackson sent out her manifesto in a colossal e-mail. I sent this back:-

To: Glenda Jackson campaign **Subject: Re: Mailing list**

Hello Glenda, You seem to have managed to acquire an e-mailing list for London party members. In the interests of equity, I should have it as well. Would you let me know where you got it or let me have a copy, please? Best wishes for everything except the campaign! Ken

To: Alan Barnard **Subject: Mayor of London e-mailing list**

Hello Alan, Glenda Jackson seems to have managed to acquire an e-mailing list for London party members. In the interests of equity, I should have it as well. Would you let me know where she got it or let me have a copy, please? Best wishes, Ken

Saturday 9th October 1999

I had a telephone message (on the Studio answering machine) from Emma Petrie at London News Direct but when I rang her back, she had mislaid her notes on what it was about! That's journalists for you.

Monday 11th October 1999

E-mail:-

*From: CliveNiall@aol.com Subject: livingstone for london
Any chance of a badge?*

To: CliveNiall@aol.com **Subject: Re: livingstone for london**

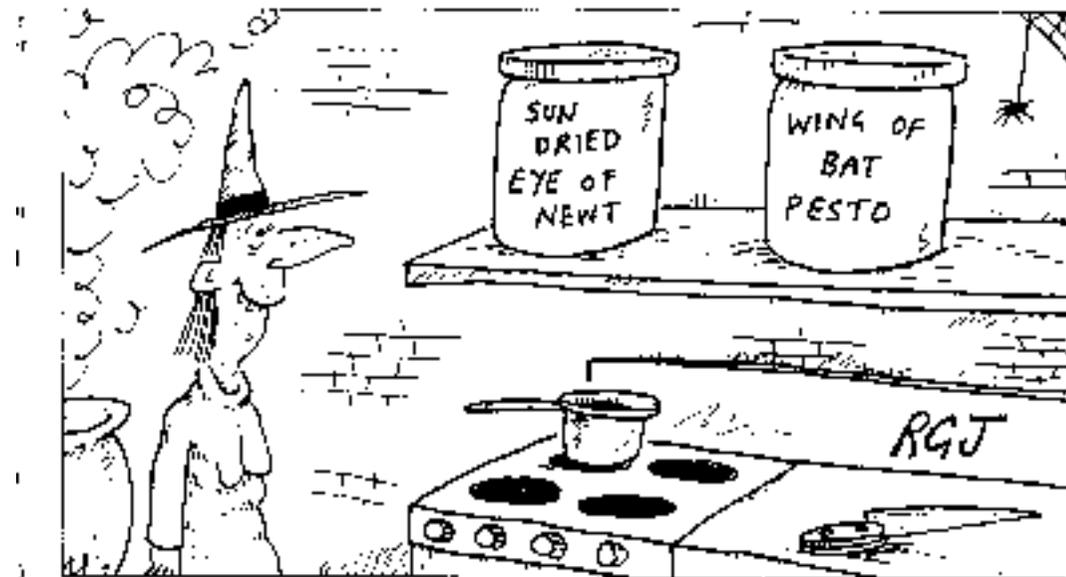
Hello Clive, 'Fraid not - I have not had any made. This campaign is costing me enough already & I don't seem to be getting an equal deal on publicity. However, the web site has attracted a lot of interest. Best wishes, Ken P S Are you sure you've got the right Ken?

Tuesday 12th October 1999

...We went on to the Photographers Gallery for the launch of Charter 88's new Education web-site. This was a useful opportunity to distribute (to Pam Giddy's disgust) more Mayor cards, including to BBC people & the Labour Party's webmaster, Andrew Saxton. We were back by nine, as it was very hot in there. E-mail:-

*From: hampstead & highgate labour party, hampstead-clp@geo2.poptel.org.uk Subject: Re: Mailing List
Dear Ken This is a mailing list which has been acquired via phoning up bodies such as the TUC, MSP etc. and*

diet for council fat cats



What North London witches eat.

ture in Islington was not happy. Much of what he preached – from the local elections, to ITNet, to Islington Housing Services moved to his – gold. Academics will come as sweet rebel.

ONE man known to earn his appearance money was MP Chris Smith, who had to fly the New Labour flag on BBC TV's Question Time in the face of determined sniping from Tory master Ann Widdecombe.

Staying so close to the Blairite way that it hurt, Mr Smith notably declared his love for John Prescott who's advising him at the body of a woman's council's question with a Eppant answer.

What was interesting, though, was the progress of the political agenda. Two years ago, the focus was LHM schools. Now it is LHM

food. Confusing for the hypothetical visitor from Mars – unless, of course, pork kids are being served Frankenstein food.

STAYING with New Labour: one man who seems happy to endorse the "Just call me Tony" mantra is Islington's chief education officer, Andy Roberts.

In a memo to headteachers advising them of a visit by school's minister Estelle Morris, Mr Roberts refers charmingly to "Estelle" and offers to arrange breakfast for the delegates.

"I shall arrange coffee/tea and hopefully some pastries and fruit juice for those like me who need to boost their caffeine or sugar levels by 8.30am." Poor darling.

BUT if a crisis really hits, Ken Baldry is the man we need.

As a responsible neighbour, Mr Baldry, wannabe Labour candidate for Lambeth Mayor, has issued fellow Gerard Road dwellers with advice on escaping the one hour man bag's clutches.

According to "Your personal Year 2000 survival strategy", we should stock up with onions, garlic and horseradice, not forgetting the prawns, stove and pan-fry. Don't wash or flush the tea; the Government will bring in water tankers if it gets really bad, he advises.

Food should be cooked round the back to avoid attracting attention. Don't answer the front door to anyone you don't know. Keep some fat or oil in the microwave (not a gift) on the hall shelf. Remember, it might be gut on them, they really seem very hungry people."

the official Labour candidate in competition with that other Ken, Frank, Gerald & Trevor. Please change this. Best wishes, Ken

Wednesday 13th October 1999

E-mail:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, You suggest 'other candidates for the Labour nomination may emerge' but unless you give them similar publicity to the four the media seem to have selected, there is little point. I declared in April 1998, the first to do so under this strange system of self-nomination but you have ignored me. There is a risk that we are going down the American road where the richest win, rather than the best. If so, this is not the Labour Party I joined so long ago. However, I shall soldier on. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

Saturday 16th October 1999

I was pleased to see a higher hit rate on my Mayor pages this last fortnight, probably as a result of the GeoCities & Guardian links.

Monday 18th October 1999

I did a solitary, rucksack, Sainsburaid. The Guardian still have me down as Independent Labour. I was wondering whether there was a case for legal action for libel but it seems unlikely, as it does not say I am not Labour....E-mail:-

From: Patrick Barkham, patrick.barkham@guardian.co.uk Subject: Mayor special report

Ken, Thanks for your mail. Apologies for getting it wrong. I've changed the mayor special report so that you are more correctly labelled. Good luck with your campaign. I hope Labour HQ don't try to nobble you as well! Patrick Barkham Editor, Work Unlimited Tel: (44) 0171 713 4672 Guardian Unlimited www.guardianunlimited.co.uk

To: Patrick Barkham **Subject: Re: Mayor special report**

Hi Pat, Bless you. Best wishes, Ken

Tuesday 19th October 1999

I had a curious telephone call from one of the muffins at Barnsbury Street, asking if I had resigned from the Party, as there was a rumour to that effect. This is the second time this has happened. She also wanted my Mayor platform, so I directed her to the web pages. E-mail:-

To: Georgette Djaba **Subject: Mayor campaign**

Hi Georgy, Quite a good day. (That's my British Understatement for you). Trevor Phillips drops out with the bribe of an Assembly seat. The Guardian web page gives me proper candidate recognition at long last..... I wonder if they will try to buy me off! Best wishes, Ken

To: Labour list **Subject: Rumour killer**

Hello Comrades, Some blighter is putting round a rumour that I have left the Party. This is the second time this has come back to me & it is absolute nonsense - one signs up to the Labour Movement for life & the Labour Party is still the best expression of the movement. If anyone knows who it is, please have them dealt with. I'm not interested in any more of these rumour mongers. Yours sincerely, Ken

Dear Editor, Of the six letters supporting Ken Livingstone published 23.10.99, only one was from a Londoner. Maybe he should try for Mayor of East Grinstead instead. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry (*not published, as usual*)

The GC was a depressing experience, with Paula Kahn in the Chair trying to keep Ryan (*Kemp, intelligent loony leftie*) in order & too many footling points of order. At least, the speaker from Claire Short's Ministry, was quite good, if a little complacent about the New World Economic Order or the licence for capitalist rapists called the World Trade Organisation, although he was right to say we should be in there fighting for what is right. There were attempts to act as if I was not bidding for Mayor of London & Joe Simpson, realistic about some things, was more useful in the pub after & which was a more pleasant experience. Nobody except Avis, who pushes my transport policy vigorously, takes me seriously, though.

Friday 22nd October 1999

09:45 Still nothing on the Web about the procedure for self-nomination as Mayor of London.

Sunday 24th October 1999

The main event of the day was an Islington North dinner in Danielli's on Highbury Park. Frank Dobson was the speaker, which gave me the opportunity to move the vote of thanks, which I did gracefully, acknowledging that he had a crime policy (without pointing out that it was crap) & I had a transport policy & I would put myself at his disposal if he was Mayor & hoped that I could rely on his advice if I was. Only a few people tittered at this, as the majority realised that I was doing the decent thing. Paula Beattie was there & aggressively confirmed that the sick Glenda was staying in the race but her political antennae are so attenuated that she accused me of the rudeness she herself showed. Meg Hillier did not do herself any good by following my speech with one that came out strongly for Frank, which was tactically inept after my effort & was rewarded by faint applause as a result. So, I was quite pleased with the evening, especially as a lot of people congratulated me on my speech. This does not mean they will vote for me, though.

Monday 25th October 1999

Sainsburaid first. I was under house arrest all day, waiting for 'The Guardian' to ring, which they never did. I first drafted a letter to the GLLP:-

The General Secretary, Greater London Labour Party, 16 Charles Square, London N1 6HT
Dear General Secretary, **Self-Nomination for the Labour Mayor of London**

I have been watching the Party & the GLLP web sites for the promised procedure for nominating oneself as a candidate for the Labour Mayor of London but it has not yet appeared. Since it has been suggested that the deadline is next Tuesday, I am submitting my nomination today as a precaution against missing it. Enclosed is a book I drew up for Erith CLP, being a copy of my web site (URL below) as it was a few weeks ago & therefore slightly out-of-date (particularly w.r.t. Frank Dobson). I would be happy to supply more biographical details if you need them. I have a mechanism in place to move from my present rôle as MD of ASL to that of candidate (which in fact exists to cover my untimely death), so this is not a problem.

The Party certainly needs a credible rank-and-file member on the short list, not just to prove that it can still be done but to offer a viable alternative to the tired machine politicians that the press have decided are the candidates. I am that member. Yours fraternally, Ken Baldry

Had to include a direct debit form, I went to Barnsbury Street, to receive the news that Milton Das had died. He looked perfectly all right on Sunday at the dinner but had a heart attack. He was a nice chap & we will miss him but apparently, Sally does not want any contact yet. I started filling the Mayor form in. The areas where you have to free-form text were somewhat limited, so I scanned then & filled them up with Pagemaker at eight point type.

Thursday 28th October 1999

I finished the Mayor form at 2829 words, copied it & took it down, in my best business suit, to Charles Square, having rung Julia & left a message. This is the meat of the form:-

Labour Party Experience

Chair - Heston & Isleworth (long defunct) CLP Young Socialists 1966

GMC Member - Heston & Isleworth (& later Brentford & Isleworth) CLP 1965 - 1980

EC member - Heston & Isleworth (long defunct) CLP 1967 I think.

GMC Member - Woking CLP 1984 - 1987

GMC Member - Islington South & Finsbury CLP 1990 - now

EC member - Islington South & Finsbury CLP now

Borough Council candidate 1968 (twice), 1971 (successful), 1974, 1984

County Council candidate (Surrey) 1985

I was selected, by one vote, as Woking PPC in 1986 & after 54 weeks of campaigning, during which I published a weekly PPC newsletter, I was deselected for, I believe, premature New Labourism. I have a slightly (but still libellous) fictionalised account of this affair, called 'Playtime in Pillsbury' which the selection board may enjoy.

Chair of Libraries Committee - Hounslow Borough Council 1971 - 4 i.e. chair of a spending committee at 27, where I reduced costs & built another library on my, not the officers initiative, which made that the only ward to swing to Labour in 1974. I held a successful Arts Festival (part of an all-London festival) in 1972. Alas, this was the zenith of the Hounslow Library Service before the Culture of Cuts started.

Trade Union membership: 1965 - 1977 ASSET, later ASTMS. This was sentimental membership.

1977 - 1988 National Graphical Association, because I was working for Reuters (see below). Although soon deemed too senior to retain union membership, I did so & joined the strike of 1984 in an attempt to sabotage the flotation. As a result, I was rather firmly offered a lucrative 'voluntary redundancy' deal. As I set up my own company, I was expelled by the union with good grace & thanks for my support.

I have been a member of my appropriate professional association, the British Computer Society, since 1966 & became a Graduate member in 1976.

Other experience

I have been **married** to Avis Saltsman, the artist & printmaker since 1983. My first wife, Jane Hayter, a government scientist, died in an accident in 1980. She was unable to have children but Avis has two & now, two grandsons & I am enjoying the grandfather experience, having negotiated the tricky step-father situation with my usual aplomb. My first wife was wonderful & the second, even better, so the Party won't have to worry about the Mayor philandering

My **business experience** is outstanding, having been at the forefront of computer technology since 1965, when I joined NCR & in 1966-7, produced a ground-breaking real-time parts management for Joseph Lucas car components. For N M Rothschild, I produced the world's first real-time stock & share management system, using mini-computers in ways that surprised their manufacturer. The next major landmark was being head-hunted by Reuters in 1977 to rescue their failing but mission-critical communications project (like a private Internet) for the Dealing system which carries even today, all the electronic foreign exchange dealing in the world. I succeeded because of my person-management skills & the respect the staff had for my experience. Reuters did not like the way I managed because I had no formal reporting procedures, trusting the staff to build the best technical ego-trip available at the time but I monitored closely but subtly what they did.

with two projects: City of London and Haringey (better known as the South African Embassy Picket). I joined this politically incorrect (largely RCG) outfit because they were actually doing something, not just passing pointless resolutions & I became their token Managing Director. I served nearly 100 sessions on the picket in an expensive business suit, talking about sanctions on the megaphone & demanding the release of Mandela. We won that one.

The other project is Charter 88, ongoing. I was an early signatory & have served on the Charter Council every year since 1991, except for 1993. This is because of my street-oratory ability, first exposed in the vigils the Charter used to hold (before the Liberation of 1-5-1997) once a month. Unlike anyone else in this outfit full of lawyers, academics, journalists & authors, I can speak for a couple of hours without notes. More usefully for a Mayor of London, I have gained experience in Charter of co-operating with & working effectively with the Liberal, Scot-Nat (not very useful in London) & Green parties. I have also spoken to schools & civic associations. Charter has won many of its demands from our government, so I am good at picking winners. The loony left in Islington does not like me much because I have shot all their foxes.

As a Charter luminary, my commitment to regional government & thus, to the principle of a Mayor & Assembly for London has been greater than most. Indeed, after talking so much about regional government, it is time to make it work myself.

Islington is stuffed with campaigns & **organisations** of all sorts but, as with many places, only a minority of the population are members. I think I probably belong to the lot, although it is sometimes difficult to know which meeting you are at because of the vast overlap of membership.

Knowledge

What can one say? I have **read the GLA Bill & noted its content**. The powers of the Mayor are limited (presumably a precaution in the unlikely case of Ken Livingstone getting the job) but quite extensive for Transport, the Police & unless I have misinterpreted 25/1, powers over the environment. I have by no means learned the Bill - I expect my (meaning the Mayor's) legal advisor to do that. The point of the position of Mayor is not so much the powers they (I use 'they' as the unisex form of 'he or she') can exercise apart from those above but the moral authority the Mayor receives by virtue of 2 million votes. For example, the Mayor is responsible for job training but if the human material they receive has already been under- or improperly educated by the Boroughs, then they are in a position to say so. However, the possibilities for conflict with the Boroughs is built into the Bill & someone who, like me, has always achieved everything they have by tact & diplomacy, rather than desk-thumping, will be essential as Mayor.

Some of the Bill is comically old-fashioned. There will be little paper distributed if I am Mayor. A key appointment will be webmaster, as I could certainly not find time to do it myself (as I do for Art & Science) because everything that passes across my desk which is not legally confidential will go on the World Wide Web. Assembly members who are not already 'wired' will have to do so. E-mails will be sent out every evening with a list of links to the latest changes. In this way, not only with the MLAs be kept right up-to-date but so will the citizenry, all of whom will have web access through their televisions within a couple of years or so. The requirement to hold various public meetings is understandable but presumably devised by some antique in Whitehall who has never heard of chat pages (or even the Internet for that matter). Note that 'legal advisor' & 'webmaster' are not jobs to be advertised as they need to go to trusted Ken's Kronies, one white man & one black woman as it happens - see next page.

While there is provision for Assembly Members to serve on bodies such as Transport for London & the Police Authority, their main function as laid down is to carp, sorry, scrutinise. This is why I have not applied to be an Assembly Member & why I have devised a system of delegation of powers (see the web pages) to give the Assembly Members something useful to do. As a strong supporter of proportional representation, I realise Labour will not have a majority on the Assembly & I have said any member who wants to co-operate can have a job. I would prefer to work with the Greens if we have to have politics-as-usual (being a Labour Green myself) but this is an opportunity to do away with politics-as-usual, exemplified by the juvenile exchanges of the Prime Minister & Leader of the Opposition.

Skills

between wives, I recall a couple of black women with getting me back on my feet, although simply getting myself down from 12,000 feet after witnessing my first wife's climbing death shows I have great practical resilience). As, what? 27% of Londoners are so-called ethnics (a term I deprecate but what else can one use?) but 42% of the unemployed are, I will ensure that half the hundred or so jobs at the Mayor's disposal go to ethnic applicants, in order to set a good example. To suggest, as the right-wing press might, that there may not be sufficient qualified ethnics is nonsense. In my experience, any group of reasonably bright people, properly lead, can out-perform their own expectations. Anyway, when there are (as there are bound to be) cock-ups, I will do what I always have done & divert responsibility to myself, a technique for disarming critics & protecting my staff. The police will have to sharpen up their act in the field of race relations. There is no doubt that they are in deep denial about the subject. There are less than a thousand black police officers & I will want to get that up to about 3,000 for starters.

As a businessman, I take **strategic decisions** all the time. Get it wrong & one is out of business.

One of my talents is to gather & co-ordinate information, coming up with a viable synthesis. This is partly because I have a **warm personality**, so people are open with me in a way they may not be with a traditional manager. Most people are dying to give of their best & appreciate a manager who is prepared to let them. One effect has been that most of the non-Labour supporters who know of my campaign are prepared to vote for me, for example, our impeccably Tory company auditors (although in their case, they have privileged access to my honesty & business sense). I have done much desktop publishing & web site building for charity, as well as computer maintenance & advice. For a professional, this does not take much effort but it saves charities (e.g Anglo-German Family History Society, Stuart Low Trust etc) & community organisations (e.g. Islington Pensioners Forum) expensive consultancy fees & spreads goodwill.

However, it is not just advice from my fellow citizens which will feed into my policies as Mayor. I have travelled much abroad both for business & pleasure & have noted the practise in other major cities. The conclusion one comes to is that London is backward & solutions to its problems have been timid or non-existent. In Vienna, the trams go down to tube train level to improve interchange, for example. Munich has a vast pedestrianised area, as does Copenhagen. Simply copying best practise from abroad will lead to my slogan of '**A Pleasanter City**'.

I have a very good memory, something I demonstrated to devastating effect in the High Court in 1979, when I quoted verbatim conversations that took place 5 year before. I am also a ferocious self-educator, having 3,000 books, all read plus avid use of public libraries & the Internet. I have taught myself some elementary German, useful in a musician & necessary in an Alpine mountaineer, who ventures into places where no one speaks English. (I have crossed Switzerland from Austria to France, every inch on foot & go to the Alps every Summer). There is additional information on our web site www.art-science.com.

Personal Statement

Unlike the candidates nominated by the press in the last year or so, I do not have the funds to employ armies of research assistants or for mail-shots to all party members. Indeed, Millbank refused me even a list of CLP secretaries addresses, so I have had to use my imagination, based on my wide background knowledge. I put up a Mayor campaign website on April 19th 1998 (the first in the field), as being the cheapest way of communicating my message to the citizenry. On the site, which you should visit (www.art-science.com/London) is a fully worked out policy on transport as well as whatever I could think up off the top of my head on the Environment, crime, the arts, training & organisation. Other people have contributed suggestions & these have been acknowledged.

Why only a fully worked out Transport policy? Because in London, it is the Big Issue. (I note that another candidate thinks crime is. This is not only wrong but irresponsible, as it is likely to both exacerbate fears of crime in some & generate them in others). Transport is key - if you solve it, the environment improves, the attractiveness of London to employers increases & people have more quality time, not to mention the cost savings. The detail is on the web site but includes a zoning system out as far as the old LCC area, so that everyone (not excluded by planning agreements) can have a car but its use is limited

a supermarker or a bank. Yet, we must ensure that affordable housing is available for low-paid service staff & the essential lower-middle professions. Co-ordination with the DEE is essential.

Why do I want to be the Mayor?

To start with, I want to be the Labour candidate because I can do this job. I have proved my abilities in other spheres & can use them here. All the touted candidates suggested by the press are tired machine politicians & the party membership deserve a candidate who is fresh but (as I said under Charter 88) totally committed to the job. I have been a Londoner all my life except for six grim years in Surrey &, notwithstanding bereavements, have had a very enjoyable time. Now, it is payback time. I would serve for one term, perhaps two if I was exceedingly popular (& I expect to be) & the Party thought it my duty to stand again. It would be my last hurrah before retirement & I have no higher ambitions (except perhaps for a crack at the Presidency, if we get rid of the Glucksbergs). I am in touch with the soul of the Party without being hamstrung by its history. I am in touch with the soul of London because it is my city & I love it.

Yes, I did do it in Times type. They may well think I am too much of a personality to be short-listed! I was under house arrest all morning, waiting for a call back from Julia Journalist but she did ring at 1245. Meanwhile, Avis worked in the Clerkenwell by-election. A photographer was supposed to ring back before 1330 but did not, so I rang the 'Evening Standard' who said : bring over your application form, so I did, to High Street Ken (Derry Street). The journo was not there, they told me after about 20 minutes, so I was well pissed off by time I got home. I went to the Guardian with another copy of my forms for Julia & then to Moreland Street for by-election work.... E-mail:-

To: Tony Gunnensen **Subject: Mayor of London**

Hello Tony, At last, the Labour Party has decided to publish application forms for Mayor &, with some difficulty, I got one yesterday & filled it in today. (It had some A4 sheets with vague questions & I was not allowed to use more than the space provided, so I scanned the forms in & used Pagemaker with 8 point type to get 3,000 words where they probably expected 500). My submission is on the web at www.art-science.com/London/application.htm if you want a laugh. However, if I do get the nomination, I have said my webmaster will be a Ken's Krony, as they have to be trusted. That gives you 6 months to bone up on HTML, cgi scripts, cascading style sheets & setting up an Apache web server under Linux (which should be a breeze). Unless you don't want the job....which will be seriously interesting, as everything I can publish, you would. Best wishes, Ken

& a similar one to Georgette Djaba.

Saturday 30th October 1999

I down-loaded the web statistics & found a sharp increase in the hits on both the whole site & the Mayor site....E-mail:-

*From: Steven Clift, clift@publicus.net **Subject: Net and Mayor/Assembly Election***

Greetings, A representative from your campaign/party is invited to join an informal online discussion about the potential role of the Internet in the Greater London Assembly election.

To join send an e-mail to:

do-london-subscribe@egroups.com

This message is from Steven Clift. I established the world's first election-oriented web site in 1994 and run the global Democracies Online Newswire. I will be in the London November 18-20 and hope to meet with those involved with London election related web sites mid-morning on Saturday, November 20. Drop me a note or subscribe to the e-list above if you are interested. For more information see my recent DO-WIRE post below. Join DO-WIRE now via the web if you like:

that a number of my core UK contacts we are planning a late afternoon (17-18 pm) pub meeting of the minds on Thursday 18. Drop me a note <clift@publicus.net> if you'd like to join us. I was pondering what might be the next big thing with the Internet and politics in the UK. The BBC site sparked my interest with a story about the Greater London Mayor election. I collected a number of links related to the Greater London Assembly and Mayor candidate web sites - see below. Perhaps some sort of late morning conversation might be in order on Saturday, November 20?

Short of that I have created a temporary e-mail list for a "virtual breakfast chat" on the topic "What role may the Internet play in the Greater London Assembly election?" It will be open through the month of November. To subscribe, send a message to:

do-london-subscribe@egroups.com

This is NOT a forum to discuss the election itself. I'll leave that idea up to those in London (I'll bet a properly constructed and publicized e-mail list would add some dynamic flavor to the election).

Steven Clift Democracies Online Newswire

Greater London Governance Links

London Governance and IT Background

Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions

<http://www.detr.gov.uk/london/index.htm>

Greater London Authority - strategic government for London

<http://WWW.LONDON-RESEARCH.GOV.UK/gla.htm>

London Local Government in the Information Society

<http://WWW.LONDON-RESEARCH.GOV.UK/lbism99/index.htm>

Mayor Candidates

Ken Livingstone <http://www.livingstoneforlondon.org.uk>

Frank Dobson <http://www.frank-dobson.org.uk>

Glenda Jackson <http://www.glendajackson.co.uk>

Steve Norris <http://www.norrisforlondon.com>

Jeffrey Archer <http://www.jeffreyarcher.co.uk>

Ken Baldry <http://www.art-science.com/London/index.htm>

London Election Discussions

uk.politics.electoral <http://www.remarq.com/threads.asp?g=uk%2Epolitics%2Eelectoral>

uk.local.london <http://www.remarq.com/threads.asp?g=uk%2Elocal%2Elondon>

(Go to page bottom and search forum for "mayor" or "election.")

More

Candidate Review Chart <http://www.mayor-of-london.co.uk/cgi-bin/mayor.pl>

News Briefs <http://WWW.LONDONNET.CO.UK/ln/talk/news/featureslonmayor.html>

----- End of forwarded message -----

Steven L. Clift - W: <http://www.publicus.net> Minneapolis - - - E: clift@publicus.net

Minnesota - - - - - T: +1.612.822.8667 USA - - - - - ICQ: 13789183

To: Steven Clift, clift@publicus.net Subject: Net and Mayor/Assembly Election

Hi Steven, I can't be around on November 20th - it is Charter 88 Council meeting day but otherwise, I

Sunday 31st October 1999

Richard came round & he & Avis went off to the zoo. I was under house arrest, waiting for the Guardian to ring. In the end, I rang them after scanning in the Scotland photos & they didn't need me. E-mail:-

From: Dpgrl3000@aol.com Subject: (none)

hi my name is Samantha and i live in Texas, i no this might have nothing to do with you campaning to be mayor of london, but in school im doing a report on London government and i need to no what the mayor of londons name is right now, so if you can please e-mail me back and tell me what his/her name is.

Thank you, Samantha

To: Dpgrl3000@aol.com Subject: Mayor of London

Hello Samantha, There is no Mayor of London at present. It is a new job created by a referendum of London people last year. There is a Lord Mayor of London, who is the mayor of the old city, a square mile in the middle of London, which only has 6,000 people living in it & I don't know his name (it is always a 'he'). The new Mayor of London will control an area of 7.5 million people, so the jobs are no way the same! Best wishes, Ken Baldry

From: A.J.Gunnersen Subject: Mayor of London

Hello Ken, You might want to print this and read it later - it's rather long.

I've briefly scanned your Mayoral submission and see what you mean - there is rather a lot of it!!!

I haven't got a printer over here so I can't go through individual points whilst simultaneously writing this Email.

But I have a few comments:

- Your chances of winning are not great according to my imaginary bookmaker. Mr. Blair is running the Tote.
- What will the man who hangs out in Brussels actually do? European politics are more complicated than relativity theory. For example, there are actually 6 governments in Belgium : Federal, Brussels, Flanders, 2 for Wallonia (French) and one German. The current Federal government is a coalition of 6 parties from across the spectrum. The government of Brussels has a Minister of Agriculture, but how many farms are there in Brussels? Err, just the one. Cushy number that job.

- I fully agree with you that transport is London's most pressing problem. The absence of adequate public transport stifles every aspect of its economy. When I worked for Citibank in Hammersmith it took up to 1 1/2 hours to get there because the tubes sit stationary in the decrepit tunnel. Here in Brussels there is a smaller metro but there are only 1 million people here. It does also have an excellent bus service which actually runs true to a timetable! At certain designated stops the driver will wait if he is ahead of schedule. This can be annoying but the net effect is that if you time your departure you KNOW that the bus will be there on time. Brussels also has a tram network which is a form of transport that the

British underestimate.

Regarding cars, there has to be a national policy for improving the railways and at the moment the money that is being spent is not going into improvements. I want 'alien' kept cars out of London, but that can only be achieved if the railways provide a realistic alternative. Parking restrictions work both ways. If you're in a Resident's Parking Area you might be able to park you own car (at some expense), but when you phone a plumber he says "Sorry, it doesn't pay me to work in that area. Goodbye". We need to get the right balance so that local tradesmen can do their work.

The M25 problem also needs to be rectified, but there is not a cat in hells chance of that happening while Blair courts middle England. It was built to keep juggernauts out of London. That is what it now being used for. It has encouraged employers to move out of London and destroy the Green Belt. The solution is to close off all the minor junctions so that the only remaining interchanges are with the motorways. Then the M25 would be used by haulage and you wouldn't need to spend money on the extra lanes. (Pity about the house prices in Guildford!)

for a certain company worker to Government Minister to give by me when it's on merit. Transformation of a revolutionary (member of the SWP or whatever it was then called) into a member of the House of Lords without standing for election is not fine by me. Not one bit.

My friend and neighbour Gawn Grainger is still in contact with Gus and told me that he was infuriated by my letter and demanded to know who was this Anthony Gunnensen who claimed to have drunk with him in the Huntingdon Arms. The confusion was of course due to the usual Ben/Anthony problem. I don't care whether he was angry as there are principles at stake.

- On Livingstone: I don't want him either. Sadly London does. I suspect that this is because before him the poor had to put up with Cutler. There is a lasting resentment that Thatcher killed off Livingstone's GLC and Londoner's remember/believe that Livingstone was the only leader that did anything for the inner city dweller for a long time. Reputations endure.

Livingstone is not the right man for the job now - he's just too jaundiced. I don't criticise him too much for doing the media round as all politicians are bumptious, yourself included.

Finally what's all this about some work? You say:

"HTML, cgi scripts, cascading style sheets & setting up an Apache web server under Linux (which should be a breeze)."

HTML - who needs to know that nowadays? Frontpage automates that for you, but you have to pay Bill Gates. I did learn a little about the Web in the fag end of the Y2K project when we had nothing to do. My line manager was planning to go into e-commerce when he returned to Preston and set up a prototype in the office (I helped him by surfing the Web). He got a Linux server set up ('Debian' flavour or something sounding like it). More importantly he configured another machine running SQL Server 6.5 - I showed him how to do a simple query on the sample database from a client PC using VB (not difficult - about 10 mins

work provided the TCP/IP addresses are already set up - something I don't really understand).

Then he installed the E-commerce edition of Site Server which costs about \$5000, but you can download it via the net free for 3 months. His plan is to re-install it after 2 months and 3 weeks.

I'm a bit sceptical about going into the Web business because it's PUBLISHING, and I don't know anything about that business. You don't need to write any code. It's all about using off-the-shelf shrink wrapped products and marketing something which has nothing to do with computing.

As for CGI I have seen the term, but would have to go to the useful

http://webopedia.internet.com/Top_category.html

site to remind myself of what it is. If you don't use this site, do - it's handy for quick reference when some clown in Seattle invents a new acronym.

I know about ASP - objects where there are e.g. VB code attached to the web pages to execute the back office stuff, but I've never used them. I'm a bit confused about about COM and DCOM although I know what they stand for, likewise CORBA. These seem to be models/architectures in which case I don't understand why agencies advertise them on theJobserve web site as actual skills. Ignorance, methinks.

As for "cascading style sheets" I haven't the foggiest what they are.

Are you offering any money for this work?

At the moment I have only the portable and modem over here. If I was back in London I would buy a new desktop immediately. The old 486 could then be used solely for LINUX - just to play with really. I've also got a docking station for the portable making three PCs. I'd have to rearrange my living room and buy a proper desk, though God knows where I'll put it. If I put new bookcases on the wall it might just fit in.

That reminds me - the docking station will take a monitor, mouse etc. so next time you are discarding redundant kit, ask me first - I may be in the market.

I might buy a new desktop over here, but there are disadvantages:

- I can only claim the VAT, not the full expense.

- I'd then have to get it back to England and my car is on loan to my brother. There are so many complications with taking a car to a foreign country (insurance, re-registering etc.) that I don't think the game is worth the candle.

Regards, Tony

passes refers to the Euro government, which has money to spend. The savage parking restrictions only apply to cars (I thought that was clear) & will be eased up for commercial vehicles for just the reason you mention. But your plumber will not be able to hide in an unmarked white van any more. It's all trade-offs.

Developers don't like unused land because of the cost of cleaning it up. That is why I want to use prisoner labour for this. The London prisons are so disgusting that I expect a flood of volunteers for a bit of fresh air on polluted ground.

London buses hang about now if they are too far ahead of the timetable. It drives you nuts, although conductors usually warn you. We really need a computerised bus detection system & a controller telling them to slow down or speed up but I think continuous bus lanes & fewer cars in the way will help.

I had a look at Livingstone's web site. Very boring & an off-the-shelf frame-set site it is, too. The photo tells you all you need to know - tired & jaded - I'm sure he could have found a better one, surely???

About furniture - I don't have a 'proper desk' because I need to get round the back of the machines, as I am always pulling the configurations apart (e.g. CD writer used on both PC & Mac).

What are your plans at the moment? Have you resolved the jobs crisis?

Best wishes, Ken

Monday 1st November 1999

Rage. No news item in the Guardian, probably pushed out by the Egyptian air crash & the worthless Lord Jacobovitz' death.

Tuesday 2nd November 1999

Story not in again. I had a bath, to waste some (reading) time & rang Julia. She had not seen today's paper & was as disgusted as me, saying if it did not go in, she would pass it to the Evening Standard. At least, we are thinking on the same lines.....In the evening, there was a PV of allegedly 'new' prints by Peter Blake at the Groucho Club. They weren't new & they weren't really prints, as a technician did all the considerable work. Nor were they particularly interesting either. We did meet this interesting South African called Duplessis, French Huguenot extraction. I gave him a Mayor card & he instantly recognised the name, as I have apparently been mentioned in the 'Evening Standard'.

Wednesday 3rd November 1999

...Not in the Guardian again but Julia must have passed the stuff to the 'Evening Standard', as their photographer came round at 1500 & took my snap (about 60 of them)....E-mail:-

To: Steven Clift **Subject: Re: [do-london] Updated London Links**

Hello Steven, Yes, there is a mistake. I am a candidate for the OFFICIAL Labour nomination, not some independent whacko. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

From: Meg Russell, meg.russell@ucl.ac.uk Subject: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Islington South and Finsbury Labour Party are hosting a debate in preparation for the ballot for Labour's Mayoral candidate. This takes place on Wednesday 17 November at 7.30pm at MSF, Moreland Street, EC1 (nearest tube: Angel).

Speakers are Glenda Jackson MP and Trevor Phillips (representing the Frank Dobson campaign).

This meeting takes place before the formal business of the Islington South and Finsbury GC. All Labour Party members are welcome to attend. Please

publicise the meeting as widely as possible (and note that it was unfortunately not publicised in the all-member mailing which went out in a rush during the Clerkenwell byelection).

From: Simon Clarke **Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

Meg, Perhaps I am jumping to conclusions, but you do not appear to have invited Ken. It is up to him to decide whether he can attend or send a "deputy". Simon Clarke

From: sue cartwright, uczrsuc@ucl.ac.uk **Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

There is no one at Barnsbury Street and Stuart's phone is out of order. Please can someone let me know before tonight's ward meeting whether this means that the GC due to be held on 17 November will be cancelled? If so when was this decided and by whom? Not only do we seem to have a lack of democracy in the mayoral debate, the members of this constituency also seem to have been disenfranchised yet again by having no GC at which resolutions may be discussed. I fail to see why, in the interests of democracy, a debate held in preparation for a ballot cannot be held when all candidates are available to represent their views. Sue Cartwright

From: Ryan Kemp, ryan@sbu.ac.uk **Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

I'm sorry meg, GC agreed to host a meeting with ALL the candidates despite your suggestion of the above. we agreed to work WITH Islington North to arrange a joint hustings

Indeed the Ken Livingstone campaign when asked said not just had they not been even contacted by you but they could not get through to Barnsbury St either Please think again and carry out the wishes of GC to have a JOINT HUSTINGS as required Ryan Kemp

From: Meg Russell **Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

If you take the trouble to read the mail you will see that the speakers are on "before the formal business of the GC". I.e. they are speakers like any other, on the same model as the speakers we attempt to have every month. These speakers were agreed months ago. I have had an email from the Ken Livingstone campaign about the possibility of sending a speaker, and have contacted the North about the possibility of a joint meeting (as Ryan reminds me I said I would at the GC - sorry). However, either of these would actually be more likely to result in GC business being talked out. Thus I think we can only progress on the basis that the GC is going ahead after the speakers. A decision to change this position could be taken at the EC next week, but is certainly not mine to make.

Incidentally, the most positive suggestion made at the GC was that joint hustings would be organised by GLLP. However, there is no sign of this happening yet. This is why I am going ahead as previously planned on a single constituency basis, in order to ensure that our members get to hear from at least some of the candidates. Meg.

To: Meg Russell **From: Sue Carwright Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

Well, this puts me in my place. Apologies for missing the bit about "before main GC business". However, Meg, you have not answered my question, why can we not have a debate when all the candidates are available? There is no need to hold this on a GC night, surely such an important debate should be held when there is plenty of time for all candidates to speak and questions to be asked? In the interests of fairness surely it is better to treat all candidates equally? This is especially true if GLLP have not yet organised hustings. Sue

To: Sue Carwright cc eveybody **Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

Hello Sue, I have been following your e-conversation with Meg Russell & I have reminded her that it was accepted at the EC that I would be invited as well. Mind you, this is the bumpiest playing field I have ever tried to kick a ball around, with someone knobbling the article on me that was supposed to appear in the 'Guardian' & Frank Dobson apparently having privileged access to the London Labour Membership Database, in contravention of the Data Protection Act. I expect I will join Glenda (although we don't like each other very much) in trying to hammer him for that & get him eliminated from the contest. He also appears to have rich friends, as every London party member has had two letters from him & it costs over £12,000 to mail us all. According to the Nominees Pack, we are allowed to spend £1 per member (that is £65,000) on our campaigns. This is American politics, where the prizes go to the

anxiety), as the paper suggested but several other people had registered complaints with the Registry. He,
he, he...E-mail:-

From: O'Rourke, Kate Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Dear all The view at Barnsbury ward last night (which will be communicated to the EC next Wednesday) is that it is inappropriate to have one candidate and the representative of one candidate to a GC - it should be all of them or none (unless of course a candidate declined to come once invited). The feeling therefore is that unless all candidates are invited, we should dis-invite Trevor and Glenda and try and organise/ help GLLP organise a full hustings. Kate

P.S. it is possible that Glenda may not be available in any event next week as she has been in hospital.

To: O'Rourke, Kate Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Hello Kate, You're forgetting me as usual. Glenda is out of hospital, so she may be able to attend. Ask Paula Beattie. Best wishes, Ken

From: Meg Russell Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

There are clearly many different recollections here from different people. I may be wrong, but my clear recollection was an agreement at the EC that only these two candidates would be invited. There is obviously pressure now to open it to all candidates, but I think that the proper thing to do would be to leave this decision to the EC.

If I am mistaken, and the previous agreement was to invite you, then I apologise. But given that you will be (hopefully) at the GC anyway, I hope you will not mind this all being clarified through the proper channels next week. Best wishes, Meg.

To: Meg Russell Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Hello Meg, The clincher at the EC was Paul's saying that, 'If only Ken (meaning me) turns up, we can give him a really hard time'. Fine by me. Either way, inviting two candidates to address the GC when another is in the audience (& a fourth not invited at all) smacks of the process we have seen too much of in this contest already. I suspect Alasdair Campbell 'persuaded' Rusbridger to spike the item they were going to do on me in the 'Guardian' (& for which they took dozens of photos). I have never been paranoid in my life before but no one could blame me for starting a new neurosis now! Best wishes, Ken
P.S. I'm not blasting this one round the whole party.

From: Steven Clift Subject: Re: [do-london] Updated London Links

Sorry Ken. I'll fix that on any future versions I send out. Cheers, Steve

Friday 5th November 1999

Nothing new on the web about the Mayor, apart from news items. E-mail:-

To: High & I Editor bcc, Paul Jackson Subject: Mayor of London

Dear Editor, When your reporter asked, the leadership of the Islington North & South Labour Parties spoke as if oblivious of the fact that I am not only a candidate for Labour Mayor of London but was probably the first to submit my form, the text of which can be seen on my Mayor web site, www.art-science.com/London. It is a poor thing when local politicians conspire against local talent for an executive job which requires an imaginative businessman with a new approach, not tired old hacks from the failed world of 'politics as usual'. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

From: Joe Simpson Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

As the 19th clashes with the England v Scotland second game most sane people will be watching the game so the GC attendance is likely to be smaller than usual. The most sensible thing would be to try and agree a hustings

From: Milton, Nick, Nick.Milton@uk.greenpeace.org Subject: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN LONDON
KEN LIVINGSTONE MP, GLENDA JACKSON MP, FRANK DOBSON MP INVITED
TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 7.30 PM
LARGE HALL, FRIENDS HOUSE, EUSTON RD, NW1
EUSTON SQUARE AND TUBE STATION; BUSES 10, 30 AND 73
ORGANISED BY LONDON UNDERGROUND UNIONS ASLEF, RMT AND TSSA

To: Milton, Nick, Nick.Milton@uk.greenpeace.org **Subject: Re: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN LONDON**

Hi Nick, Why have I not been invited? Regards, Ken

From: Paula Kahn Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

I missed the Barnsbury Meeting but support the view of the ward wholeheartedly. Surely we should not be drawn into unfair practices too. We must have a chance to hear them all and to level the playing field Ken and Glenda have to have the priority on the offer of dates.

From: O'Rourke, Kate Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Ken I didn't forget you in my note - do you mean you weren't on the circulation list? Kate

To: O'Rourke, Kate **Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE**

Kate, I was on the circulation list all right. It's just that, as a Mayor candidate, I expect to be asked onto the panel at events where the other candidates are asked. Regards, Ken

From: Joe Simpson Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

By Nov 17th there may be three, four more or less because by then the selection board will have decided who qualifies

From: Paul Jackson Subject: Mayor of London

Dear Ken I haven't seen the H&I piece but would not ignore you! I will take a read. Paul

To: Paul Jackson **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**

Hello Paul, Thanks. Life at the moment involves a lot of hanging about waiting for journalists (who come or ring) & newspaper photographers (who also come & take dozens of photos) & who's stories are then spiked. So, while I have never been paranoid in my life before, no one could blame me for starting a new neurosis now! Best wishes, Ken

From: Steven Clift, clift@publicus.net Subject: [do-london] Question 1 and 2

(New subscribers can introduce themselves any time by posting to <do-london@egroups.com>.)

I guess I'll just plug in a question from time to time. I understand the nature of politics online such that if you work on a candidate/party site you don't want to disclose your strategy - but you all know that whatever each of you do on your public sites will most likely be picked up quickly by the competition.

1. E-mail announcement lists are becoming the big thing in U.S. 2000 election <<http://www.egroups.com/group/do-wire/289.html>>. Is that catching on with the London election? Do you think it will play a bigger factor than the web sites themselves?

2. Why might the Internet play a bigger role in the London elections than say the recent elections in Scotland and Wales? Is the climate right in terms of online critical mass?

Steven Clift DO-LONDON

Saturday 6th November 1999

Monday 8th November 1999

E-mail first thing:-

From: Simon Clarke Subject: Mayor

The level of political reporting gets lower. This story in the Observer says that Ken will not be allowed to stand, but as this would be undemocratic he will be encouraged to stand as an independent. Now to encourage a Labour MP to stand against the Party would surely merit the same penalty as actually standing ie expulsion.

I am quite sure that there is no truth in this story but it does no harm to state that there is no legitimate reason to disbar Ken. The full wrath of the Party should bear down against anyone who is looking for an excuse to stop Londoners and the Party from choosing the mayor the polls suggest they want.

Stiffed (Stop the imposition of Frank Dobson) Simon Clarke

I rang the BBC, who could not talk to me then but said they would ring back at 1430. They didn't....Later e-mail:-

From: Milton, Nick Subject: RE: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN LONDON

Dear all Just to clarify Ken Livingstone and Glenda Jackson have already agreed to speak, only Frank Dobson has yet to confirm. As this is one of the most important issues facing a future London Mayor I hope you'll all come along and question them on the issues. Nick Milton

From: Milton, Nick Subject: RE: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN LONDON

Hi Ken Fair point. I'm not in any way involved with organising this although I can find out who is if that would be helpful. I flagged it up to give people the chance to hear at least three of the candidates (an improvement on the 2 candidates invited to our next GC I'm sure you'll agree). Has Meg asked you to speak at that? On another point Nick Butcher and I are going to send a motion to this months GC calling you a level playing field and transparency in the Mayoral selection process and I'm sure we'd both be grateful for your input. Regards Nick

To: Milton, Nick Subject: RE: THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORT IN LONDON

Hi Nick, Please give me the e-mail address of the organiser, so I can straighten them out. Thanks. Best wishes, Ken

To: Editor - Evening Standard Subject: Mayor of London

Dear Editor, It is time Ken Livingstone returned to Planet Earth. As the Real Ken standing for the Labour nomination, I expect to put in 16 hour days at least at first, not be part-timing or rather, two-timing the London Electorate. If you read my web site www.art-science.com/London, you will see a demanding programme to bring this city up-to-date. Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

Tuesday 9th November 1999

While I was in the bath, ITV 'London Tonight' rang in the form of David Lockwood. He said he would ring later to fix a time this afternoon, when he could interview me for Mayor of London. I walked down to the passport office to collect my purple one. There was a message from Lockwood & we arranged for 15:00. E-mail out:-

From: Gill and Mark, astarita@fundraisers.demon.co.uk Subject: Re: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

last time I tried something like this when I was we had hundreds of emails from all over the world, so pls spread the word and see how far this one gets.
Thanks. Mark Astarita

To: Gill and Mark, astarita@fundraisers.demon.co.uk **Subject: Web pages**

Hello Mark, Good to hear from you. I will put a link to your web site if you put a link on yours to mine:-
www.art-science.com

There is a relevance between your cycle pages & my Alpine ones. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

From: julie@lvsc.org.uk **Subject: [do-london] Consultation vs Voting**

I work for the London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC) in London as a project manager for Action Link London. We are building a website that will bring together, in one place, information about and for the London voluntary sector.

Perhaps the most interesting part of this work is the communications and consultation aspect of using the web to give London's voluntary sector a voice to speak to the GLA and Mayor. This work will involve technology, but also lots of training for people working in community and voluntary groups to learn how to use the medium for carrying out decision-making, polling and consultation. And of course, the same will be true for the Mayor and GLA!

However, I am aware that this list is for "voting" and so this statement probably is not entirely appropriate to the spirit of the discussion. However, because voting is not something many people do these days ;) and especially the "socially excluded" (in Brent recently the lowest turnout for voting was in the most deprived neighbourhood) consultation through the voluntary sector, the sector that is most representative of the groups of society who are considered socially excluded, needs to be considered when making decisions about what Londoners want to happen in their capital.

I am especially interested to know of any examples where direct action or change occurred through an online discussion with the community and policy-makers? As a volunteer in Tower Hamlets, I was recently involved in the Serving East End Democracy (SEED) project and as far as I can tell, no change occurred after the chat room discussions between young people and councillors. If anyone knows of a way to move forward a discussion onlist to a resolution, I would be very interested!

As the project manager for our ICT project, I am not that closely associated with LVSC's work with GLA Liaison, Civic Forum and Third Sector Alliance, but have asked colleagues to spare the time to describe this work if others on this egroups list are interested. Also, the opinions expressed in this message are not necessarily those of LVSC.

Julie Zielstra Action Link London

From: David Wilcox, david@communities.org.uk **Subject: [do-london] Re: Consultation vs Voting**

Julie Zielstra asked if online discussion with community and policy-makers makes a difference.

My hunch is that it may not often do so directly, but can be powerful when mixed with face to face meeting, used to stimulate interest in other media, make contacts that would otherwise not occur. The difference may come from the ways in which online impacts on other patterns of communication.

When I was a print journalist, it was never clear to me that what I and others wrote had any influence on readers and voters... what it did do was influence what other journalists wrote and politicians talked about - which is why conventional media is so incestuous.

The difference with online is that potentially the readers are writers too. However, to make a difference they would need:

- to reach a lot of others people to (maybe) influence them directly
- also reach decision makers who probably won't take any notice unless they think a lot of other people are involved.....
- and/or use the special qualities of the medium to do things individuals and small groups can't do with other media

more than a consultation exercise designed as window dressing for no action but good publicity. If I find as Mayor that I cannot do anything, at least, I will say so & apologise. If I can, people can see it happen (& who is holdong things up....) Best wishes, Ken

At 15:00 on the dot Simon Harris arrived with a photographer & were around for 50 minutes, filming me being interviewed, putting in one of my CDs, reading a score (Mahler's 10th but I hope it didn't show - it was supposed to be one of mine) & at the computers, looking through my web site....Tim something from the BBC rang up & I directed hm to the web site. ITV did show it on the six o'clock news & it was not bad at all but the video recorder failed to record it. I certainly looked statesman-like enough. E-mail:-

From: nickb@edge.co.uk Subject: Fwd: FW: Ward resolution?

Ken, Attached is a proposed resolution from Barnsbury to go forward to the GC.

I agree with the sentiment of the motion and, particularly given your position, would like St Peter's to put forward it's own motion essentially along the lines of each candidate having a fair chance.

Nick and I are aiming to meet on Wednesday to discuss. Do you have any comments? Nick Butcher.

"Nick.Milton@uk.greenpeace.org" To: NICKB Subject: FW: Ward resolution?

Nick Is there a ward meeting tonight at Kens? If so please can you remind me of his address. Barnsbury have asked me to put the following motion on the agenda. Nick

> ---Original Message--->

From: Rowena [SMTP:Rowena@barnsbury.freereserve.co.uk]

Sent: Monday, November 01, 1999 11:03 PM

To: Steve Barnett; Nick Milton; Norman Beddington; Ryan Kemp; Mark Astarita

Cc: Jenny Rathbone Subject: Ward resolution?

We are hoping to pass a resolution condemning/regretting the use of the electoral college in determining the Labour candidate for mayor. We thought it would have more strength if a number of wards passed the same or a similar one. A suggested wording is as follows:

This GC condemns the setting up of an electoral college for the mayoral nominations. We were assured by Nick Rainsford in the House of Commons that the selection would be by OMOV. The electoral college gives a few MPs, MEPs and unelected GLA candidates the equivalent of 1000 votes each compared with 1 vote each for ordinary party members. This is totally undemocratic.

If a handful of MPs, MEPs and assembly nominees are to determine the result of a nomination it will bring the party into disrepute and make for a flawed and compromised candidate.

We call upon the NEC to reconsider the principle of the electoral college in particular the allocation of the third of the vote to MPs MEPs and GLAcandidates.

If the NEC fails to do so we call upon the MPS, MEPs and GLA candidates to consult the members of their constituencies and to take their views into account before casting their votes.

To: nickb@edge.co.uk Subject: Re: Fwd: FW: Ward resolution?

Hello Nick, Can't object to that rsolution. Suggest we forward it as from the Ward, as there was no meeting. Best wishes, Ken

PS I was on ITV's 'London Tonight' this evening but the video screwed up, so although I saw it, I can't analyse it. Such is technology.

Wednesday 10th November 1999

E-mail first thing:-

From: david.sansom, david.sansom@which.net Subject: RE: THE GREAT MAYORAL DEBATE

Sadly, I am unable to participate as a GC delegate at present. However, thanks to this on-going e-mail discussion,

The Evening Standard rang but only to ask about other Mayor candidates. Apparently, I had a mention in a list of eight others, last week & missed that. But at 1356, Anna Teeman from the BBC Millbank (Parliamentary) Unit rang & asked if I could come down. I said in an hour & changed into a suit, getting snarled up on the tube but getting there in time. I bumped into Glenda on the way in & was polite as usual & she wasn't, as usual. The Twigglet was there, too & I had to tell him why I was. Anna said she was 'guttled' that ITV had got to me first. It was a far more sympathetic interview than the ITV one (which was all right, I thought) & maybe I'm learning on the job. It will be on 'Around Westminster' on Sunday at 1300. Anna promised me a tape of it, since we will be in Manchester. I rang Win, who thought the job too much for anyone & made very Euro-sceptic noises. I pointed out that I ran an international business, so was keen on the Euro. Then, someone from the 'Independent' rang, wanting my URL, which I gave him. After that, a North London radio station interviewed me on the telephone. During dinner, Paul something from the 'Guardian' rang, to be greeted by some sarcasm, as I directed him to my web site, their photo library & Julia Hartley-Brewer. I was mentioned with the other candidates on the BBC South-East News, getting what looked like equal time, so no cause for complaint there....I went to the EC, still dressed as a chip butty. We decided to carry on with the invitations to the Mayor candidates for next Wednesday's GMC but it was clear that there will be terrible trouble in the Party if Ken Livingstone is not short-listed. Mary Ogbogoh said the other candidates should stand down if that happened but only mentioned Dobbo & Glenda. I had to remind her! Still, I do not yet have a contingency plan for that eventuality. Paul Waugh of the Indie left a message to ring him but the number he gave me was wrong!!! Apparently, he is in the Parliamentary Unit at Westminster.

Thursday 11th November 1999

I did get a mention in passing in the 'Guardian' but it forced this e-mail:-

To: Guardian Editor **Subject: Mayor of London**

Dear Editor, Why was Ewen MacAskill surprised by my nomination as Mayor of London when you have advertised my web site on your web page for months? And why does he assume that I will not be short-listed, when it is Frank and Glenda who need to prove that they are not 'politics as usual'? After working harmoniously with other parties for a decade at Charter 88, I don't have to prove that.

Yours sincerely, Ken Baldry

From: Michey & Alan (!) Subject: Re: Mayor of London

G'day Ken! Glad to hear you've made it on both channels but I doubt whether we'll get to see you down here in NZ!

There's an imminent general election here - and both the major parties' candidates are women. Is this a first? Meantime, Australia voted to stay Monarchists, but only because they didn't want to give the politicians even more power. But the average Oz is no doubt too busy celebrating their recent victory on the rugby field. The Kiwis comment is "bugger" - not nearly as rude a word here as it is in the UK. You can even buy T-shirts with the word emblazoned across the chest! Hope you've been receiving our reports OK (last one was part 4). Our best wishes Michele & Alan

I rang Paul Waugh (of the Indie) & he said he had run his piece. I wrote my 500-word spiel for the leaflet the Party will distribute to all the members:-

London is not 'Middle England'. London is Advanced England & Londoners more sophisticated, so they understand that radical measures are necessary to solve its Big problem, which is transport. Success in all other fields, notably the quality of life, depend on getting transport right. My proposal for zoning London & restricting the use of cars by zone during the Rush Hours will free buses from traffic jams, get Londoners moving, give them more quality time (you can read on a bus) and dramatically cut pollution. There will be no car for the Mayor: one can run London by mobile telephone from the top of the Empire State Building. The Mayor will be a woman, with a woman's intuition, and a woman's sense of humour. The Mayor will be a woman, with a woman's intuition, and a woman's sense of humour. The Mayor will be a woman, with a woman's intuition, and a woman's sense of humour.

Local hopefuls compete to show loyalty and socialist

Ken Livingstone has named a list of 100 Labour Party members to support his bid to become Mayor of London.

Mr Dobson's campaign manager, Phil Woolas, said the list was "a mix of people from across the party, including some of the best-known names in London politics."

Mr Livingstone's list includes names such as Ken Livingstone, Phil Woolas, and other prominent Labour figures.

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Supporters of Mr Dobson were particularly concerned by the way the campaign handled the row over the team's acquisition of a list of Labour Party members.

A Labour source said: "The feeling is that the Dobson campaign is now getting its act together and gaining a focus and confidence that it didn't have before. It has had to withstand an onslaught over the past six or seven days but things have started to improve."

But the move will come as a disappointment to Mr Raynsford, himself a mayoral candidate for three days last month before winding down his campaign to lead Mr Dobson's team.

Measures are now in place for key members of the team to act as a rapid rebuttal unit to confront adverse stories before they gain currency - echoing the media strategy in place at the party's headquarters in Millbank.

Labour sources say effective control of the Dobson campaign has been assumed by Phil Woolas, MP for Oldham West and Saddleworth, who is regarded as a rising Blairite star. There is concern that the campaign has been preoccupied with "firefighting" instead of promoting the virtues of Mr Dobson and formulating policies to take the battle to Left-wing mayoral hopeful Ken Livingstone.

The Greenwich and Woolwich MP, who as campaign manager had complete control of Mr Dobson's team, is understood to be playing a reduced role after weeks of damaging gaffes.

Raynsford pays for Dobson campaign gaffes by Hugh Muir Minister for London Nick Raynsford is set to take the rap for the string of tactical blunders which have dogged Frank Dobson's campaign to be Mayor.

This is 500 words with the title stuff. Simon Parker from the Local Government Chronicle (833 7312) rang, offering me lunch for an interview. Difficult to refuse, so I didn't. Avis came as well & we both charmed the legs off him, so I expect a good write-up but this would appear on Friday week & be irrelevant if I don't make the short-list. We ate modestly in Caffé Uno. I bought the Standard & Independent. I got a brief mention in the Standard but the Indie did me proud. This is the 'Standard's story, off their web site:-

Mr Dobson, who as the Labour MP for Greenwich and Woolwich, was set to be the Mayor of London, has been accused of a string of tactical blunders which have dogged his campaign to be Mayor.

Mr Dobson's campaign manager, Phil Woolas, MP for Oldham West and Saddleworth, who is regarded as a rising Blairite star. There is concern that the campaign has been preoccupied with "firefighting" instead of promoting the virtues of Mr Dobson and formulating policies to take the battle to Left-wing mayoral hopeful Ken Livingstone.

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He also proclaimed while declining whether to stay in the Cabinet while seeking the nomination. His team was again criticised for persuading MPs to write personal letters to party members because much of the communication turned out to be identical.

Mr Raynsford himself was attacked for devoting too much time to the Dobson camp and too little to his ministerial responsibilities.

The introduction of Mr Woolas, 39, cements his reputation as one of New Labour's most trusted fixers. In July he ran the party's campaign in the by-election in Eddisbury, Cheshire. The Tories scraped home by 1,600 votes in what was regarded as a safe Tory seat.

Last night the Labour Party announced that Mr Dobson, Mr Livingstone and Glenda Jackson had all formally applied for the nomination by the closing deadline yesterday. The fourth candidate is Ken Baldry, a businessman from Islington. All four are expected to be interviewed when Labour's selection panel meets on Tuesday.

From a Romford Radio station, Active FM a nice lady, Jenny Kirk rang to do an interview for one minute dead. I had ten minutes notice of this, so edited down the second part of my leaflet.....There was message from Carol Rubra of BBC Newsnight that they wanted me & the others on next Tuesday if we were short-listed. I said ok but we might have trouble getting there from the Friends Meeting House. She said they would lay on transport. E-mail:-

From: Garth Eaglesfield Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Ken Forgive me but I didn't know you were running, tell me more or point me in the right direction to find out more, I'll put my massive block vote at your disposal! Cheers, Garth

To: Garth Eaglesfield Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Hello Garth, Thank you for your support. All details are on:- www.art-science.com/London

Best wishes, Ken

P.S. Must catch up after the present excitement is over - the press & TV keep ringing.

From: Meg Russell Subject: Islington South Mayoral Debate, 17 November

This message confirms the arrangements for the Mayoral Debate being held by Islington South CLP before our GC on Wednesday 17 November. These arrangements were agreed by the constituency executive last night. The meeting takes place at MSF, Moreland Street, EC1 (nearest tube: Angel). It starts at 7.30pm, with the speaker part of the meeting starting promptly at 7.45pm.

All four candidates who have put themselves forward are now invited to attend, or send a representative. Given that the panel will be decided on the day before our meeting, we agreed that only candidates who are on the panel, or who have stated their intention to launch a formal appeal, will be invited to speak on the night. Currently the confirmed speakers are: Ken Baldry, Glenda Jackson, Trevor Phillips (for Frank Dobson). No representative is yet confirmed from the Ken Livingstone campaign, but the invitation is now open and we are hopeful that someone will attend.

The format of the meeting will be that each candidate will be invited to make a short opening address of 4-5 minutes. This will then be followed by a 'Question Time' style panel, with questions from the floor. The meeting is open to all Labour Party members. Formal GC business will follow the speaker part of the meeting, at around 9pm.

Given the importance of this topic to Labour Party members in London I hope that the meeting will be well attended. Any members who receive this message are encouraged to spread news of the meeting to other members. In a few weeks we will be invited to vote in the election for Labour's candidate, and it is important that as many members as possible have an opportunity to hear from and question the candidates. Best wishes, Meg Russell Political Education Officer, Islington South and Finsbury CLP.

Jim Richards rang to offer his support & I think I have Mike Watts' as well.

*From: kend wickham, 1st@kendwickham.screaming.net Subject: identity
Ken Are you the person who worked for Reuters in the 80's?*

To: kend wickham, 1st@kendwickham.screaming.net **Subject: Re: identity**
Hello Ken, I certainly am. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

To: Laurence Steinpress **Subject: Re: Good luck on Tuesday**
Hello Laurence, Thank for your support. Jennette Arnold is my running mate. (I am a tall thin dead white male & she is the exact opposite...).
Your offer of help is much appreciated & I will let you know where I need it but I must prepare for tomorrow now. Best wishes, Ken

*From: Jennette Arnold Subject: Re: Deputy Mayor of London
Dear Ken It would be an honour to serve. Good luck for Tuesday Best wishes Jennette*

*From: Herbie Skeete Subject: The news of your standing for Mayor has swept through Reuters!
Hi Ken! News of your being a potential Mayor of London has swept through Reuters! Topping even the "who will succeed Job as CEO" gossip! Herbie Skeete
PS: Since I no longer live in London, I haven't a vote!*

To: Herbie Skeete **Subject: Re: The news of your standing for Mayor has swept through Reuters!**
Hi Herbie, Great to hear from you - sorry you can't vote for me. I thought Ure was going to succeed Job. Please keep me informed! Best wishes, Ken

*From: Ronald Parker Subject: Mayor of London
Hi Ken Heard you mentioned on Wednesday's lunch time news. Will watch, hopefully, Around Westminster on Sunday at 1300. Good luck with the campaign Ron*

To: Ronald Parker **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**
Hello Ron, Thanks. Best wishes, Ken

*From: Andrew.STEVENS@dfec.gov.uk Subject: London Mayoralty
Ken I read the story about you on BBC News Online. I have actually met you at numerous Charter events as I am also on Council, yet I wasn't sure as to how far you'd got with the mayoralty thing. Like many I am disenchanted with the whole business of selecting a candidate as I do not back Dobson nor Livingstone and (was) a reluctant supporter of Jackson. Therefore I could be inclined to support a more appropriate candidate, especially one who was also active in Charter 88!
Let me know if there's any way I can support your campaign. I'll plug your site on lists I'm on.
Do you have a running mate picked yet? Many thanks and regards Andrew*

To: Andrew.STEVENS@dfec.gov.uk **Subject: Re: London Mayoralty**
Hello Andrew, Thank for your support. Shortlisting is tomorrow & Jennette Arnold is my running mate. (I am a tall thin dead white male & she is the exact opposite...).
Your offer of help is much appreciated & I will let you know where I need it but I must prepare for tomorrow now. Best wishes, Ken

*From: Julie Zielstra, julie@lvsc.org.uk Subject: [do-london] Re: Space for Online Discussions
Stephen, I've forwarded your suggestion to create a forum for the London mayoral race and the issues associated with the coming regional governance to our (London Voluntary Service Council) GLA Liaison staff and the editor of the newsletter "London Calling: news of the GLA and election of London Mayor for the voluntary sector"*

...the about and they support for I resident and the time <http://www.e-democracy.org/mpls-issues> in Minneapolis we have the non-partisan Minneapolis Issues Forum for <<http://www.e-democracy.org/mpls-issues>> oth local election talk and discussions of local policy.

Might there be some interest in crafting an online Greater London Issued Forum among some of the list members here? The key would be to get the right 100 or 200 people subscribed from the start such that the discussion actually matter. We have learned that who reads your message is more important than what you have to say. Perhaps this would make a good happy hour topic on Thursday for those who can make it.

On that note, I may have some time on Friday or Saturday for some brief meetings, drop me a note if you are interested. Cheers, Steven Clift Democracies Online

Tuesday 16th November 1999

Did not get much sleep last night, running possible scenarios through my head. The Radio 5 Live girl called at 0715 before I had my kit on but I soon did & had to hang around in the uncomfortable van for a quarter hour before my brief few minutes. I told them who I was, that my lack of spin doctors was ok as people were getting fed up with being spun & when she asked for the first thing that came into my head when she threw a word & threw 'Tube', I said I was about to get on one & it would be very crowded & not the answer to the transport problem. We had to get the buses through. And that was it. I was feeling nervous, unusually. E-mail:-

*From: DAVID FIELD, david@mackenziefield.co.uk
Dear Ken Good luck at the selection meeting regards David Field*

*From: AJGUNNERSEN Subject: Mayor of London
Ken, Further to my earlier message, I've just been looking at your Web site and note the comments about your campaign being suppressed by the powers that be.
My suggestion is that you provide information to Matthew Norman of the Guardian's Diary. You will already be aware that he is anti-Millbank. The Guardian's readership is largely London based so it's a good forum for publicity. You are not standing for Mayor of Tunbridge Wells so it matters not that no copies are sold there.
I'm in London today at the fag end of a long weekend - hence my ability to send Email. Tomorrow I return to sunny Bruxelles to find out how much I will be charged for my second-hand portable PC to be fixed. Until I get online again you can always contact me on 0032 2 734 9563. Regards Tony.*

That was while I was waiting for time to pass. In fact, all the tubes connected & I was at Pimlico by 0845, so walked round the back via Lambeth Bridge to see the Rat Pack hovering in the distance. As I walked up Millbank, they started photographing from about 150 yards! There was a lot of questions, lead by Elinor Goodman of Channel 4 News, all of which I fielded without difficulty with the now stock answers. Then in. I was taken care of by David Wilkinson, given coffee & put in a hot room facing the sun to wait, reading the Express to see the item about me, with which I was pleased, as it said Composer who runs a computer company, although it dismissed my chances. So did yesterday's Guardian & the Observer. It took them an extra 20 minutes to get their act together, David saying they were still word-processing the questions, which astonished me, although I did not show it. Later, I told the Panel that I had had a worse grilling while I was waiting from the Sun than from them but by this time, I had made them laugh quite a number of times. But first: they all introduced themselves. Clive Soley was in the Chair but I don't remember who most of this faceless lot were. Then, I stood & walked around to give my presentation, which went according to plan but did take the ten minutes, Clive warning me after 9. There were a couple of formal questions from Clive about, did I understand what I had signed with the application form? Of course. We are all getting the same questions, which are fired by different people, I imagine to see how one behaves under fire, & supplementaries. I got all my points home, the last being about sending a message to Party members about standing if you have the talent etc. which I was glad I could get in at the very end. Some were really

to say why I was there in the third world beyond the M25 - which absolutely creased up McCarthy & Jim FitzGerald (MP for Poplar, who also pointed out that developers had done brown field sites in his patch. I said, 'Good: that's good news' not letting his contradiction of my prisoner plan have any effect), revealing that I had bought a house to accommodate my previous in-laws, step-sons & us. I did have the opportunity of saying that, whatever the deficiencies of the Act (& I had described the concept of the Act & manifesto being business plans which should be altered to suit the market as business plans are), we, the Mayor & Assembly would make it work & show that we could. The ending was all very good natured, which made me suspect that I had been eliminated before the meeting opened. David did say I had done well. I had to hang around a bit to let Frank get through the Rat Pack before going out & getting the treatment myself.

Among other things, & I would not be drawn on the actual questions, keeping all my answers vague, they were interested in the shape of the room & its size. It had been a rectangle of tables with them on three sides & me in the middle of the fourth - when did you last see your father? style. I was asked if it was intended to intimidate & I said I was afraid of intimidating them, as the four of us had assessed ourselves as mayor material & the Londoners on the Panel had assessed themselves as not. This, to the Independent guy Paul Waugh & I got frozen, the sky having cleared the the temperature down, so I was glad to get to Channel Four's studios in 4 Millbank for a warm-up. The nice Chinese make-up girl made me look as if I had just been climbing. This was at 1140 for the 1200 Powerhouse compèred by Paddy Ashdown. Ken Livingstone & Glenda turned up only just in time to be made up & Ken introduced himself. I said we had met & reminded him of Avis' print, whereupon he put 2 & 2 together. He asked if she was the dead or alive wife (not quite like that!), so I told him. Then, we were on. I was done first (we were all sitting around in armchairs), as I had 'been through it'. When Ken came on, he said, no loyalty oath if it included privatising the tube & no PPP unles it was the best deal & the government's wasn't. Afterwards, we were filmed all being friendly. When I got home, Avis soon followed, although I was not expecting her but she wanted to know all about it. I ran her to St. Pauls after lunch, as the Central Line is down. The 'Evening Standard' wanted & got a telephone interview & Carol Rubra confirmed tonight's arrangements. Richard Williams had telephoned his support. The 'Times' photographer was very late - 1 hour & Avis came back early to witness some of the snapping.

1755: The Party has still to ring me & let me know but the five o'clock news programme said that I may not be dropped, as a panel member had said that I had a very good CV & application form. While I waited, I prepared this e-mail just in case:-

To Campaign Team, Other socialists, Family & Extended family

Hello All, So, I have made it to the short list, after a fascinating meeting with the Selection Board on Tuesday morning & despite being written off by the press. I would be grateful if all of you who have expressed support for me would write to the papers telling them what a great Mayor I would make. I am 'allowed' to spend about £68,000 on my campaign - I have more like £680 in the kitty, so any mailing or lobbying (friends or your union) would be of enormous help to me.

It doesn't matter whether you live in London or not if you write. People within commuting distance have an interest in who the Mayor is, even if they don't have a vote. If you are basically, a Tory (some extended family members), it would be helpful to say you are but would support me as the best bet.

Best wishes, Ken

I also edited my web site, taking this next bit out:-

"Someone seems to be knobbling my campaign!

I have had reporters ring up & two photographers come round from different newspapers. I have also spoken to people at the BBC. Somehow, the stories never appear. It couldn't be that someone at, say, Millbank had been told to stop it, could it? I don't know, but I don't think so. I don't know who to blame, but I don't think it's me.

celebration! Paula, I can't find the details & I will do it. I rang Carol Rubin to see what I should do but she was not around & someone took a message.

2030: Someone rang back from Newnight to tell me that the decision was postponed until tomorrow & would I stand by for Newsnight tomorrow? I went out for an Evening Standard, which had little except stuff about Livingstone & nothing on me. I spoke to Molly McConville on the way back. Then at home, Aysin Behchit rang in support! He has had his social life nuked by the two kids, of course.

2110: I rang Millbank but no one was there. NO ONE TOLD ME IT WAS POSTPONED. I looked at Teletext, as Aysin suggested I should. Page 107 said they wanted to re-interview KL on Thursday. So, how long do we have to hang about? Later, I rang Lloyd, wanting Paula but she wasn't there. Glenda & Ken had gone to the RMT meeting, to which I had not been invited.

2152: At long last, David Wilkinson rang to say what was going on. KL would be reinterviewed on Thursday morning & a decision arrived at by lunchtime. I will believe it when I hear it.

From: Andi, wsmcentral@free-online.co.uk

your_name=A N Good your_comment=A N Good - Interesting Phonetics Labour Mayoral Candidates Survey

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are currently surveying the musical tastes of the four shortlisted Labour candidates for Mayor of London.

Please take the time to answer the following questions:

- 1. What is your candidate's favourite song?*
- 2. What is your candidate's favourite band?*
- 3. Who is your candidate's favourite solo artist(e)?*

Many thanks and good luck with the campaign,

Andrew N Good A N Good Interesting Phonetics angoodip@yahoo.com

To: Andi, wsmcentral@free-online.co.uk

Hello Andrew, Your questionnaire:-

- 1. What is your candidate's favourite song? Hurdy-Gurdy Man (Schubert)*
- 2. What is your candidate's favourite band? London Symphony Orchestra*
- 3. Who is your candidate's favourite solo artist(e)? Tina Turner*

Ok? Best wishes, Ken

....Newsnight, in which Glenda made the mistake of appearing. I had refused, because I thought candidates were in a lose-only situation & so it proved, because Clive Soley was very good at demolishing the Livingstone position & Glenda was teetering on the edge of a rules violation. I was well out of it. More e-mail:-

From: Steve Walton, sj_walton@computerweekly.net Subject: Good Luck

Ken, When I saw today that "Ken Baldry" had entered the Mayoral Race, I had this sneaky felling it was you. (ps

I got the link from BBC pages so they have completely suppressed you!)

I don't expect you to remember me - Steve Walton, but I worked with you at Reuters (SWM !) back in '78-82 -

Days I well remember with Chris Stephenson(!) REX III etc etc.

Any way best of luck - I don't live in London - so I can't vote, but I'll be wishing you the best Steve

To: Steve Walton, sj_walton@computerweekly.net Subject: Good Luck

Hello Steve, Forget you? I never forget anyone who did a good job for me (or anyone who didn't!).

Thank you for the support - I need every bit I can get. Today's short-listing has been a complete farce &

damaging to the party. Since we all got the same questions & I obviously (I was first) came out of it what

To: dmrichards, dmrichards@73redhouse.freemove.co.uk **Subject: Turn again.**

Hello Richards family, Thank you - I need all the luck I can get but I think I may have received it. The interview went very well but the whole scene has been screwed up by the Ken Livingstone business. Since we all had the same questions fired at us, I cannot see how he got himself in this position. It is all put off until Thursday, much to my irritation but I have a feeling I will be on that short list, as I dealt with every question, including some v-e-r-y sticky ones & made them laugh a few times. All our love, Ken (and Avis)

From: Andrew Stevens Subject: RE: London Mayoralty

Ken Hope all went OK.

Should you get on the list then you might want to think about raising your profile in the party. A good way to do this would be to get something in Tribune. Regards Andrew.

To: Andrew Stevens **Subject: RE: London Mayoralty**

Hello Andrew, Thanks. It seemed to go very well but you will have gathered from the news that there is a strong smell of cock-up about the process. We await Thursday with interest. Best wishes, Ken

I rang Jennette & she said that the Euston Friends Meeting House & it was nothing but a rally for KL, so it was a good thing I did not go. Jennette said I was a magician - we shall see.

Wednesday 17th November 1999

GLR rang & woke me, saying they wanted an interview. They rang later when I was in the shower to fix one for 1300. The Guardian had a photo of me inside but described me on the front as a 'rank outsider'. This was their story inside:-

It was a hugely symbolic moment Ken Livingstone was being interrogated by Labour's selection panel at the party's Millbank headquarters yesterday afternoon about whether he was fit to be a candidate for London mayor.

The left-wing maverick was in the middle of defending his record when there was a huge thunderclap outside. Everyone was taken by surprise, and there was nervous laughter.

Two hours later, there was another thunderclap, this time metaphorical, when the selection panel decided not to put him forward as a candidate and to ask him to return tomorrow for further discussion.

The outcome appears inevitable. Mr Livingstone standing as an independent. The consequences of yesterday's meeting will be felt in the Labour party for some time; at least for the next few months, perhaps for years.

Tony Blair faces mass defections from the London Labour party when he needs neither a drop in membership nor, more importantly, a party at war with itself. The public does not like internal strife, as the Tories discovered.

The likelihood has to be that Mr Livingstone will now go into a five-way fight next May as an independent, up against Frank Dobson, as official Labour candidate, and Jeffrey Archer for the Conservatives, along with candidates from the Liberal Democrats and the Greens.

There are two versions of the fateful meeting in the Millbank boardroom: Mr Livingstone's and that of the panel that faced him.

He had been chirpy on the way in, almost floating as are-suit of the Guardian poll yesterday showing he would win whether he stood under the Labour banner or as an independent. Three other candidates, Ken Baldry, Mr Dobson and Glenda Jackson; had already been interviewed. They had been taken in alphabetical order and Mr Livingstone was last.

He sat down about 3pm at a small table, facing a panel of 12 ranged in a semi-circle round the boardroom's huge table. A portrait of the former Labour leader Clement Attlee hung above them.

Mr Livingstone gave a 10-minute presentation, and then faced an hour of questions. None of this is in dispute.

What is at odds is who said what to whom. Mr Livingstone said he had a 20-minute exchange with Ian McCartney, the cabinet office minister, who was on the panel. Mr McCartney, who is on the left of the party but is a Blair loyalist, had

een mayoral selection panel and former GLC leader raises prospect of internal party strife and mass defections

How Labour put Livingstone on the spot



Changes from Miliband enter his grilling by the selection panel, who also star Frank Dobson, left top, Gambia Jackson, and Ken Betty Photographs: Martin Agency

Ewen Macdonald
and Michael White

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At least some of Mr Livingstone's followers believed an aim had been pre-ordained by the Labour leadership, and that the intention had been to block him from the start. They had known his view on the Tube, so why wait until yesterday to use it as grounds to disbar him? The reality, according to this camp-follower, was that Mr Blair knew Mr Dobson could not win the next stage, Labour's electoral college, and so blocked Mr Livingstone.

The panel's version is very different. They said they had sat down at the start expecting Mr Livingstone to go through and were taken aback by his cocky attitude. He had been asked what he would do if he did not agree with the still-to-be-framed manifesto for the London election, and, to their astonishment, he had replied he would walk away. This created outrage and it is this point which they have asked him to return tomorrow to clarify.

The panel's chairman, Clive Soley MP, seemed to be shaking with emotion as spoke later to reporters: "when I left home this morning I was expecting to be able to give you the final decision ... Unfortunately I am unable to do so," he began.

The language was significant. Party officials had reported back to the 12-strong panel that the media were constructing conspiracy theories, that, despite Mr Blair's weekend denial, it had all been stitched up weeks ago.

Mr Soley indignantly insisted that they had done their best, but that - on the two crucial points - Mr Livingstone's answers had been unexpectedly difficult. "He did seem to be saying at one stage that he would withdraw as the candidate if the manifesto was not to his liking."

That was tactful. Privately party officials were far more scathing. "If Ken had come in and given straight answers he'd be on the shortlist by now. Other candidates did not prevaricate about supporting the Labour manifesto. This is big picture stuff, it's not just about the Tube. You really have to ask yourself, does he really want to be on the shortlist?" said one insider.

The panel was unanimous, they stressed, and had spent the three hours discussing what to do next, not how to find a majority.

The one thing everyone agreed on last night was that it was a mess. "The management could not be worse. The whole party expected him to be shortlisted. This will be anarchy" said one aide to Ms Jackson.

The Labour hierarchy had finally decided at the end of last week it would try to keep Mr. Livingstone inside the tent, but only if he obeyed their rules. It was too much to hope for.

Richard Williams rang again & I filled him up with developments so far.. He said Glenda did not do herself any good on Newsnight & I was right not to go. E-mail:-

From: derrick arnold, freebro1@hotmail.com **Subject: Passenger Lists**

Thanks, Derrick. We will look it up when the dust has settled on the Mayor of London campaign, which is taking 25 hours a day at the moment! Best wishes, Ken & Avis

It tried (my best!) to catch up on the paperwork. Belinda (Association of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club editor)returned my Verajoch photo (from 1997!) so I e-mailed her this:-

To: Belinda Baldwin **Subject: Alpine trip**

Hello Belinda, Thank you for returning my photo. I have not done this year's report yet (although I had an interesting trip) because of being tied up in my Mayor of London campaign but I will send you something soon. Do you want actual photos or can I attach JPEGs to an e-mail? I don't mind. Most of the trip is on:- www.art-science.com/Ken/Alpine/RM if you would like a preview. Best wishes, Ken Baldry

In an e-mail from Ryan Kemp, it appears that Thornhill (Loony) Ward will move this motion at the GC tonight:-

"This GC condemns the setting up of an electoral college for the mayoral nominations. We were assured by Nick Rainsford in the House of Commons that the selection would be by OMOV.

The electoral college gives a few MPs, MEPs and unelected GLA candidates the equivalent of 1000 votes each compared with 1 vote each for ordinary party members.

...giving them one. But Avis said it went very well, so it should be perceived ok. The High & I, in the form of Jem Maidment, had made strenuous attempts to contact me & interviewed me after lunch. He is a new boy. The BBC Breakfast News24 programme (Clifford Thompson on 0208 624 9241) rang & later rang to give me a time for a car in the morning 0700!!! Shit, I will have to get up. In between, Alec Luck of the 'Mail on Sunday' rang & I gave him a load of info. My party line is that I don't know how KL got into such a pickle over detail. E-mail after dinner:-

From: Melanie Clark, melclark@microsoft.com Subject: mayoral issues

Hi Ken Being interested in, but sadly under-educated about the mayoral contest, I thought I'd surf the web to see what the candidates have to say, and must say first of all that I am massively impressed by a couple of things, before I even go into policy issues.

Firstly you have a more comprehensive site than any of the others (or at least any others I can find) showing an admirable willingness to embrace technology; and secondly the openness about not only difficult and contentious issues but also your personal life and financial assets. This makes me, for one, respect your attitude - it's rare I feel that a potential politician is even vaguely trustworthy, and am usually convinced that those who quest for power should automatically be disqualified from having any (cynical, me?) - mainly because I have an enormous bugbear about responsibility - power involves masses of it, and I think many don't realise just how difficult it is to truly live up to your responsibilities. My gut feeling is that you're doing this because you truly want things to be better, so either you're a good person or have great PR (or both), whichever combination it is, you're hitting the right note.

Anyway, now I've had my soap box bit, I though I'd add a few things you may want to think about, all concerning transport, as that's what bugs me most.

> On the spot fines for any vehicles in bus lanes, no excuses, no loading, no "just five minutes"

> The easiest way to both encourage and subsidise use of the river for public transport would be to include commuter boats in the Travelcard scheme, with easy access points on bus/tube routes. I've lived in SE London since I moved here after college, and the sad lack of tube facilities could easily be immeasurably improved by regular river buses - needless to say this will also help reduce the farce that is Hammersmith Bridge & environs at present.

> I became worried when I read about your proposed zoned car access stickers, but applaud it if it stays at the £100 mark - however if it ends up being thousands like it is in some central areas, you'll have a riot on your hands...especially if it means people have to buy cheaper, older, more polluting cars as a result. I live in Zone 3, and think your plans are very realistic.

> Less cars in the centre of London will mean extended demand at night - London's club and bar, theatre & entertainment scene relies on thousands of people driving into town after the commuters have gone home. Tubes may have to run all night, nightbuses extended & you may have to subsidise training for cabbies, as there'll be a massive demand, and people at 4am on a cold night are a lot less patient with any politician who makes them wait 2 hours for a cab - hardly a vote winner!

> Please don't classify motorbikes along with bikes in precedence, they may be small, but they are loud, also polluting, and are driven too often by maniacs. I have this awful mental image of everyone who previously used a car buying a motorbike and the streets beginning to resemble a motorised Beijing.

Some of the things to bear in mind around transport issues is safety. During the day, no-one minds a brisk walk to the nearest tube/bus stop (except disabled, of course), but at night I for one will always take my car if I have a choice simply for safety's sake. So for the women of the capital who have either a job/social life/both, please bear in mind the following:

> License minicabs, please, immediately. There are ex-cons and current cons causing havoc & even private car drivers stopping at the side of the road, pretending to be cabs & taking advantage of tourists' ignorance - putting them in massive danger. Everyone between 20 - 35 has heard stories of muggings at least, more if unlucky - we need more cabs, clean cabs, legal cabs.

*was not included on the agenda for this evening's meeting.
"This GC regrets the decision not to allow the Labour Party candidates for Mayor of London to be selected by One Member One Vote and calls upon the NEC to ensure there is transparency and fairness in, and accountability for, the process for the nomination, selection and voting for candidates. This GC also calls on the NEC to provide a level playing field and equal opportunities for all potential candidates to put themselves forward for selection and to be heard." Nick Butcher Secretary, St Peters Ward*

Then, off to the GC, where I was up first as no other candidates had arrived. I just told them what had happened yesterday & fielded some questions. Then, Glenda arrived & did one of her shilling-in-the-slot speeches, full of largely unarguable facts but no passion. So were the answers to her questions. She is pro PPP. I said I could see, as a businessman, how one could take the Government to the cleaners with PPP, or rather, how I would. Later, Trevor came to speak for Frank & was better (than Frank!). I left him to it, except for a couple of short comments. I had to leave the room when they voted on motions critical of the process because of my undertaking but made it seem ludicrous. Paula Beattie simply broke the rules but she is only a worker (for whom we have to take the oath, remarkably enough), so I wouldn't make an issue of it. After, Mary Ogbogoh thanked me for telling them what it was like, as otherwise, they would never have known.

To: Melanie Clark, melclark@microsoft.com **Subject: Re: mayoral issues**

Hello Melanie, E-mail 2...I had to dash off to a meeting after writing the last one, so more detail...

1. You're dead right about bus lanes. I think this is happening because of the gradually expanding system of cameras in buses.
2. Boats - I said I will do it.
3. Yes - the stickers cannot get too expensive but most motorists don't realise that, even with 80% duty of fuel, they are still subsidised by the general taxpayer.
4. Right but I can't run the tubes all night because of the maintenance backlog. It wil have to be more street transport.
5. I am more concerned about the number of motor cyclists killed by cars. You can travel by train for 1,150 years for a 50% risk of an accident but only 2 years on a motor bike. (I am not a biker myself). Any noise pollution from anywhere will get a heavy hand.
6. Sure, I'll licence minicabs. Too many crooks in them.
7. Good idea. Best wishes, Ken

Thursday 18th November 1999

I was up at 6 & the car from the BBC came at 0650, early. Jaguar & nice driver at the end of his shift. He did not know who I was but soon did. The interview on 24hour News went perfectly from my point of view, meaning on the monitor in my view. I was asked about the process, which I said we signed up to but which had gone pear-shaped. I said I could not imagine how KL had got bogged down in detail & used the military analogy (you don't bother with regimental detail when planning the strategy - which I have used before). I was extremely pleased as I left the studio & more so when the black driver knew who I was & is studying computing, so I could give him some hints. However, when I got home, Avis said only a small part of it was shown. I had been convinced (by the previous items coming up on the monitor & the introduction thingy gave himself) that we were completely 'live' & this left me wondering whether they were saving the whole item for 1 o'clock in case I am short-listed. If they have, I had been conned. I decided to go to Millbank Tower & got Avis to drive me down, getting out before the Rat Pack could see I came by truck! I was there at 1045 & left at 1210, after a few more interviews but no progress from inside. I met the dismissive Ewen McCaskill from the 'Guardian' & told him to consider himself having a bloody nose, after which we got on ok. The Torygraph took lots of notes & photos. So did the Standard. I was back for dinner-at-lunchtime by 1250. Jem Maidment rang again, wanting to know what we all want to know. E-mail:-

going on there in Millbank. I went down this morning to have a look. I have put you on the Mayor mailing list & when my campaign is over (i.e. I am not short-listed or not selected or elected), I will put the campaign diary.pdf on the Web, as I have been extracting the campaign stuff from my master diary. Regards to Julie, Best wishes, Ken

From: Jem Maidment, jmaidment@islingtonexpress.co.uk Subject: My Islington

Ken, To follow is the 'My Islington' questionnaire. If you can fill it in and e-mail it back to me within the next couple of weeks that would be greatly appreciated, although, of course, you may have one or two more important things on your mind.

Best of luck today, and I will speak to you by Monday at the latest.

Kind regards Jem Maidment

To: Jem Maidment, jmaidment@islingtonexpress.co.uk **Subject: Re: My Islington**

Hello Jem, Ack yours & I will fill it in real soon now, as out Colonial Cousins say. Best wishes, Ken

From: aysin.behchet@db.com

Ken It was good to hear your voice last night. I appreciate you have a lot on at the moment.

You deserve the post and I wish you all the best.

Please let me know if I can assist in any way. Please give my regards to Avis

Best regards

My home no is 0171 720 2749

Address 34 Riverside Court 20 Nine Elms Lane London SW8 5BZ

Aysin Behchet 6th Floor 120 Old Broad Street Tel: London 0171 547 0748 Fax: London 0171 547 9138

To: aysin.behchet@db.com **Subject: Your update**

Hello Aysin, Thanks. I will update my mailing list & have put you on the Mayor mailing list as well.

Best wishes, Ken

David Wilkinson rang me up at about 1505 to tell me I had not been shortlisted. He was practically rude about it or dismissive & a little more sensitivity would have been both appreciated & appropriate. I said thank you for ringing. What a bunch of midgets of the imagination! I had to change the e-mail I had prepared:-

To: All **Subject: Mayor of London**

To Campaign Team, Other socialists, Family & Extended family

Hello All, So, I have not made it to the short list, after a fascinating meeting with the Selection Board on Tuesday morning, where I clearly felt I had made a great impression. The Board have shown a massive failure of imagination. Being written off by the press did not help. I was bluntly told I was off with no feedback or whatever but this does not surprise me with Labour bureaucrats. I would be grateful if all of you who have expressed support for me would write to the papers telling them what a great Mayor I would have made.

They asked me on the telly this morning who I would throw my support behind if I was not shortlisted & I would not say. Here is my position on the PPP: I don't like it but was prepared to sign up for it. If I had been selected, I would have gone along with the manifesto but, on the day after the election, I would have had to stitch up a coalition with (probably, if unfortunately) the, I can hardly bear to type it, Liberals. They would have wanted PPP dumped in favour of bonds. I would have argued long and loud, until they gave up their other demands & then given in. Why am I so anti PPP? Because, as a businessman, I know how to exploit these, effectively, fixed price contracts to extract far more from the

looks like you may have it taken up by now time
despite the sensitivity, all candidates should make a stand on PFI/PPP, it is worse than privatisation - we both
give away the silver and hock our grandchildren. It is also financially illiterate.
We have got to the point where an unknown outsider (no offence) is our best hope

To: Mark, Mark@consol.co.uk **Subject good luck**

Hi Mark, Thanks but I got screwed. This is what I sent the team:- (above message)

I went off to Steven Cliff's 'Happy Hour' or three hours for the [do-london] e-mail forum members. About 20 came & the level was astonishing. We could have formed a government (coalition from Liberals to Communist). Richard Stubbs has wired the whole of Newham (Council, voluntary organisations etc) on a shoe-string, giving it the highest level of wiring in the country. Other good contacts were Paul Youlten of Entranet - we have common interest in XML for banking applications & Hanna of the DL & a cellist (& dish). I left reluctantly at 1845, to go to the PMC Show at Whiteleys, where I expected to see Avis. She was not there & I did not really appreciate the show, as I had other matters on my mind, so I came home. Blow me if another television company did not want to interview me tomorrow.

From: Louis Berk Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Ken Well done on getting as far as you did - it is a real shame that you were not put on the short-list, you certainly deserved a crack at it.

My feeling is that Labour have managed to create a massive own-goal over the selection process. Whatever one might feel about the Conservative party, at least their process was short and sharp (even if they lacked credible candidates). I'm just surprised that they have not been exploiting the aura of incompetence, self-interest and indecision that has surrounded the Labour party selection process, to date.

What is clear to me is that next Mayor of London will be elected on one important policy issue alone. Transport. Or more precisely - the Underground.

There will be a spontaneous revolution and blood on the streets if any of the incompetent, smug, customer-unfriendly, self-important _bastards_ who run the Underground get their hands on fat-cat salaries and massive share options as a result of privatising or semi-privatising LUL.

However repulsive Stalinist principles might be - the concept of taking the entire senior management of LUL outside and shooting them would be deeply satisfying to the majority of tube travellers. And it would have the desired effect on the remaining management to work at making the service run properly. Is this a bit extreme? Try using the tube for the past 25 years as I have and I guarantee that my fantasy is probably a tame one compared to other people of a similar vintage.

What the tube needs is (i) new management, (ii) new ideas, (iii) more central funding and/or ability to raise finance from the market for projects.

I, like hundreds of thousands of commuters will be listening very closely to the candidates ideas on the Tube and will vote with my feet according to the most convincing arguments.

Regards Louis D Berk - E-commerce consultant

To: Louis Berk Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Hello Louis, Thanks - that was just what I needed for a pick-up. Best wishes, Ken

and the same message to Richard & Aysin.

From: Richard L Williams Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Ken, All real people are not allowed even to get mentioned before we enter the paddock! Aunty at least mentioned you. The Grauniad was probably the most important reason for your demise but we expect better below...

best regards, see you sometime soon for a drink,

Richard.

Soley said Livingstone had promised to accept whatever manifesto was put forward for the Labour candidate for London's first elected mayor. He also pledged not to withdraw if some parts of the manifesto was not to his liking. "He did not qualify those answers in any way," Soley said.

Sources close to Livingstone said he would now turn the race against the other candidates -- former Health Secretary Frank Dobson and ex-transport minister and Oscar-winning actress Glenda Jackson -- into a referendum on the "Tube".

Livingstone wants to invest in the Underground by issuing bonds. The government insists on selling parts of the system to the private sector.

Livingstone, dubbed "Red Ken" for his socialist policies when he ran the now disbanded Greater London Council in the 1980s, is a runaway mayoral favourite with Londoners, according to opinion polls.

But Prime Minister Tony Blair shudders at the thought of the unreconstructed left-winger running Britain's capital. Blair has frequently said his party must never go back to the extremism of the 1980s, code for bashing Livingstone.

"I will never, while there is a breath left in my body, let the Labour Party go back to those days," Blair said in a speech to a London-based think tank earlier on Thursday.

Blair's spokesman said the prime minister was standing aside to let party procedures run their course in the London mayor race. He would also campaign for whoever won the candidacy to run against Conservative millionaire author Jeffrey Archer next May.

But he left little doubt that Blair will do his level best to sink Livingstone.

"Between now and then you will be hearing a fair amount from the prime minister," the spokesman told reporters.

Dobson's aide told Reuters that he had always wanted a fair fight with all candidates.

"He spoke to Tony Blair yesterday and told him that was the only basis on which he would stand," the aide said.

For related news, double click on one of the following codes:

[UKI] [G] [RNP] [GB] [POL] [RRL] [NEWS] [WEU] [EUROPE] [LEN] [RTRS]

Thursday, 18 November 1999 15:31:03 RTRS [nL18427990]

From: X (Party official) **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**

Dear Ken, Sorry to hear the news. Still at least you can hold you head up high cos you had the guts to stand up for what you believe in - something many others are/were unwilling to do.

I hope you found it a good experience - though like a large number of party members at the moment, I fear the whole selection procedure may simply have disillusioned you with the party machine.

I hope this is not the case, as now more than ever before we can not do without the skills that long standing members such as yourself have to offer the party.

Next time I see you remind me to buy you a drink... X

P.S. I can't say anything publicly and would appreciate you not passing on my comments to anyone..... I'm sure I can trust you to respect my wishes.

To: X **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**

Hello X, Thanks for the note. I will leave it off the next distribution, which is of comments. I was less upset by the failure to get on the short list, which is what I would have counted as a victory than by the brusque manner in which it was done, without any explanation or sensitivity. I heard from a BBC news report on Tuesday that one of the Selection Board (unnamed, obviously) had said I had put in a very good CV & application form & I thought the interview, which was designed to be quite tough in places but caused me no problems, went very well. I even managed to make Jim Fitzpatrick & Ian McCartney nearly die of suppressed laughter, so I was surprised that they did not take a punt on me. Perhaps I displayed too much personality! But my closing remark was that they should short list me because it would send a message to the Party that, even if you are not well known, if you have the talent, flair & ability to apply for a top job, you should not feel inhibited from doing so. They have clearly decided to send the opposite message, which is not a good idea.

To: Chris Stephenson **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**

Hi Chris, Just thought I would keep you informed. I would not trust Livingstone further than I could throw him & he is very much bigger than me! It was my old mate, Dave Wetzal who did the Fares Fair scheme for which Livingstone got all the credit.

PPP is public-private partnership & (as I explained in the last e-mail) something any competent businessman could rip off. Bonds are loans raised by the London Government, the way any government borrows money. Best wishes, Ken

PS I don't suppose the latest earthquake has been managed much better than the last, has it?

From: aysin.behchet@db.com **Subject: Re: Mayor of London**

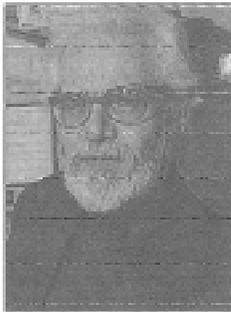
Ken Heard the disappointing news. Hope that they make it up to you in some other way.

With very best regards Aysin Behchet

From: Aeschi96@aol.com **Subject: Re: Macugnanga**

Ken - Thank you so much for replying to my questions about Macugnanga. It was very useful information. I would really like to do the hike over the pass and down into Saas Fee, in fact that sort of long distance apline trek has always appealed to me. I'd like to climb over the Hohturli from Kandersteg in the Bernese Oberland too, for that matter. Alas, who knows? In any event, my wife and I will plan a stay of several days in Macugnanga on your advice and do the hikes there.

Islington's other Ken emerges from 'chat with Stasi'



● Ken Baldry: 'They liked me.'

MAVERICK London mayoral hopeful Ken Baldry jokingly described his interview with Labour bigwigs deciding on the party's shortlist of candidates as being "like a chat with the Stasi".

Speaking before rival Ken Livingstone's second interview at Millbank yesterday, the Islington businessman said he was confident of making the shortlist after a nerve-racking 75-minute meeting with the Labour Party selection panel on Tuesday.

"My interview went extremely well," Mr Baldry, a member of Islington South and Fins-

bury Labour Party, said.

"I was happy MP Clive Soley was chairing the interview because he is somebody you can trust. We had a few laughs and at one point I had two of the panel in fits of giggles. They liked me, I liked them and I had a warm feeling when I came out of the interview.

"It had been nerve-racking stuff, a kind of nice-guy, nasty-guy interview. It was like the Stasi but it went well."

Mr Baldry, who runs a computer business from his Gerard Road home, was quick to dismiss the suggestion that his whole campaign has been a

publicity stunt.

"Am I after my 15 minutes of fame? Goodness me, I'm 56 years old and am old enough to

know what I am doing. The reason I am doing this is because I want to and would make a good mayor."

And what's this about the Mayor of London race? When is the election? If it is past, did you win? I lived for a year in Canterbury, but that was back in 1984. London might well be our next European trip, so I look forward to being able to say that I got e-mail from the Mayor of London.

Regards. Dr. Don Poe McLean, Virginia, USA aeschi96@aol.com

To: Aeschi96@aol.com **Subject: Re: Mayor**

Hi Don, I was trying to get on the Labour ticket. This is a new post. Today, I learned that I did not get on the short list but at least, I got on the long list. Hope you enjoy your trip Best wishes, Ken

Friday 19th November 1999

Good report in the High & I.

To: Jem Maidment, High & I **Subject: Mayor campaign**

Hello Jem, Thank you for the excellent report in today's High & I. I was not let on the short list in the

Ken attended a short listing meeting on Tuesday 4th November, when only a few genuine supporters expected him to be long-listed. In fact, the windy lot did not short-list him but he is leaving this web site up until after the Mayor election, so people can compare his proposals, both with the manifestos & the actions (if any) of the actual Mayor."

and this at the top of the content:-

Tribute Time

Although this campaign did not succeed, Ken would like to record his thanks to his supporters & campaign team

(& especially to say 'chin up' to the latter - there will be other campaigns) with special mentions to:-

My wife, Avis, who has given rock-solid support & a lot of time
my Deputy Mayor running mate Jennette Arnold
my designated Mayor's Legal Advisor Georgette Djaba
my designated Mayor's Webmaster Tony Gunnersen,
'the gang': Richard Williams, Louis Berk & Aysin Behchit and

the Internet itself, without which Ken could not have contemplated going for this job. The next Internet candidate could succeed, as by the next election, most people will have access through TV-set top digital boxes.

This rather exaggerates the number of people involved but at least I have shared the 'fame for fifteen minutes' equitably. I was picked up at 0950 by a car to GMTV, where a sweetie called Hanna got me made up & a coffee. The programme was taped, so it was possible to handle glitches in camera positions etc. I had several minutes & I think, used them well for self-advertisement, which was the object of this last fling of being famous-for-fifteen-minutes. I found myself being nice to Dobbo by default but still made it clear I did not think he wanted the job. Jeremy Corbyn was also there & he whispered in my ear, 'Isn't it good news about the Royal Baby?' because today's headline is that Cherie Blair was pregnant. I had told Hanna that, 'It doesn't fall off when you become Prime Minister'. Jeremy liked my reference to the Stasi on the High & I. The driver taking me back said he had a Man of the Cloth going in & a Man of the People going out. I sent a copy of my team e-mail to Ken Livingstone with this covering note:-

Hi Ken, Congratulations. Below is the e-mail I sent to my gang after David Wilkinson as near as damnit told me to eff-off. You might find part of it interesting:- (message)

From: Anthony Barnett, anthony@local.globalnet.co.uk Subject: you tried

Dear Ken, When the Standard described you as "unknown" I said out loud in the tube, "not to me, he isn't". I much admired your brave attempt to become Mayor and think it is disgraceful that you were not allowed to go onto the list of candidates for Labour members to decide. I didn't support you because I backed the other Ken not for personal reasons, he is pretty impossible in most ways, in my view, but because I think what he did with the GLC was creative. Of course, a lot of crappy things happened - I said so at the time in the New Statesman diary and was told in the GLC to stop such criticisms when the enemy was at the gates! No one thought they were not true. Nonetheless, the GLC did not ask for people's party cards. While he himself is quite undisciplined in his attitudes, Livingstone did not make others follow his line. The openness of the GLC created a new experience of politics for a generation, from Ken Warpole to Geoff Mulgan to Robin Murray, and I think that London needs the same kind of expressionist politics. So, I owed you an explanation of my private views and had expected to give this to you when your campaign became an official, public one. Alas, I am sorry that it has not. You are bound to feel pissed off, even depressed. You will be justified internally. But if it is any consolation, you have been spared a

see you tomorrow. Best wishes, Ken

From: nickb@edge.co.uk Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Ken, My message (it got lost on the original) was that I was sorry to hear you missed the shortlist. I did think that the party would remind us why we all joined in the first place and why we have been campaigning all these years by admitting you to the list, but this opportunity has been missed.

I congratulate, though, for having got so far, it must have been an experience! Best wishes. Nick Butcher.

To: nickb@edge.co.uk Subject: Re: Mayor of London

Thanks, Nick. Everybody has been very kind. It was moral cowardice by the Selection Board not to let me go forward & some of the team are very upset. Best wishes, Ken

In the mid-morning post, this appeared:-

145, Prince George Avenue, Southgate, London N14 4TD

Dear Ken Baldry, I read your material on the internet and write to express my support for your candidacy for the up-coming election for Mayor of London. You'll get my vote.

If there is any display material or information material that you could send this would be much appreciated.

I will gladly meet costs. Wishing you all the best, yours sincerely David John

I replied:-

Thank you for your support. Unfortunately, I was campaigning for the Labour nomination & yesterday, the wimps on the Selection Board failed to short-list me, so it is all over. If you would like to do something helpful though, you could write to David Wilkinson, GLLP, 16 Charles Square, London N1 6HT, saying something to the effect that you think it a disgrace that I have not been shortlisted & how could the Labour Party waste the talents on someone like me? With best wishes, Ken Baldry

Saturday 20th November 1999 Charter 88 Council Meeting

Because it was in the Charter offices, it was only ten minutes walk for me. Paul Farthing was in the Chair (why?) but late, so Paul Hirst started us off. Everyone wanted to know what it was like in the Star Chamber, so I told them. I also said that I had managed to advertise the Charter at every interview. I had. It transpires that everyone who knows Glenda (like Paul Hirst), hates her. Anthony Barnett submitted a paper about the position of the Charter & the new world where the Tories were doing joined up thinking, especially about using the English question to challenge the legitimacy of the British parliament. There was much discussion of the English question & several people, like Vicky Seddon & me, were not happy that Paul curtailed discussion to finish early.

When I got back, Avis said that Jeffrey Archer had stood down as Tory Mayor candidate & that London New Direct had tried to contact me. I rang them back & they told me a friend of Archer's had said that Archer asked him to provide a false alibi for the Monica Coghlin affaire. They asked me to appear live on the 1530 news bulletin. Avis thought it was my best ad-lib effort. I said I thought it was good news for London, because if a wheel came off the Labour campaign, not that I thought it would, at least we had a chance of a responsible Tory candidate like Steven Norris & not a buffoon. When challenged on whether the business was descending into farce, I said it wasn't & that Labour had a good list despite my absence. Avis later heard Glenda said that Norris would be harder to beat. Yeah! especially if it was her fighting for Labour! However, I will have to give her some help, as I have given the other two some.

From: Dunlap-Palund, monkeypa@dircon.co.uk Subject: [FORCE] Multitudes of Forces

My TV interview was bumped by the Archer story, not surprisingly but it would have gone out on digital yesterday, as that was before Archer broke. I was interviewed on the telephone by the Guardian on my university career, such as it was. Avis wrote this to the High & I after the suggestion from the Government of a really stupid road pricing system:-

The Editor Highbury and Islington Express

Dear Sir Thank-you for your support of my husband Ken Baldry's bid for Mayor of London. The only way he could publicise his ideas over the last year and a half was through the internet. Since recent media publicity there have been very many visits to this site (www.art-science.com/London) but unfortunately he was denied it before the interview. No procedure was ever produced for the Labour nomination and no constituency secretary's addresses given to a would-be candidate.

Ken has the only well-worked-out plan for dealing with London traffic which favours residents, who are after all the voters in this case, and which does not enable the rich to buy their way round the system. All other proposals appear to 'leave it to the boroughs' which is quite insane as there are thirty-three of them. Are they all therefore to have their different uncoordinated arrangements with a toll every time a borough boundary is crossed and different rules baffling to the motorist? And how on earth would it be administered?

Ken's plan involves using something like the current zoning system with the ability to travel outwards from or within your zone in the rush hour and paid for by a flat rate annual charge rather than tolls. It could only be done by treating London as a whole which I thought was the idea of having a London mayor and would greatly assist inner boroughs like Islington. Although he is not now a candidate Ken will attempt to get his ideas across to the candidates and eventual administration.

Visiting Manchester and Liverpool recently we were envious of their ability to cope with these things. Coming back to London was like approaching a beargarden. Yours sincerely Avis Baldry

and I wrote this on Mayor paper:-

Clive Soley MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Dear Clive, This will be the last outing this notepaper gets. I wanted to thank you for your even-handed Chairing of the Selection Board. The only public comment I have made is that, after signing up to the procedure, it went a bit pear-shaped. It was only a pity that Wilkinson's telephone message was so oafish. It would not have hurt him to say I'm sorry to have to tell you & well tried. Actually, the Team were more cut up than me because they think I can walk upon water. Nobody can.

I can well understand the Party not wanting to have to deal with two charismatic Kens, even to the extent of preferring the (admittedly dangerous) Disloyalist to the (harmless) Realist. The Party are already bored with nice, decent Dobbo & Glenda, well, we all know Glenda but I will have to give her some help as I gave Dobbo a leg-up on TV yesterday & gave KL a bit of advice on PPP from my commercial experience & I am trying to be even-handed myself.

It is a pity that the Board ignored my last remark: they should short list me because it would send a message to the Party that, even if you are not well known, if you have the talent, flair & ability to apply for a top job, you should not feel inhibited from doing so. You sent the opposite message but, if you think about it, in the current constitutional position, there is an obvious use for my talents if the Party has the wit to realise it.

but, as usual, I was years ahead of my time.

What follows is the printed version (in black & white, though) of the web site, as it was at the end of the campaign. It is still up & will remain so to allow people to compare what the eventual mayor does with what I would have done.

